Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-95-204
Monday
23 October 1995

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-95-204 *23 October 1995*

CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Reportage on Concluding Events at Nonaligned Summit 1
Colombia's Samper Interviewed on Summit *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 1
Samper Holds News Conference *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 3
Samper Closes Summit *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 5
Colombian Foreign Minister on Summit *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 6
NAM Issues 'Appeal From Colombia' *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 8
Cuban Envoy Denies Summit 'Cubanized' *[NOTIMEX]* 10
Peru's Fujimori 'Harshest' Critic of Blockade *[CLARIN 19 Oct]* 11
Costa Rican NAM Membership Rejected *[Madrid EFE]* 11
'Arafat Meets Leaders at NAM Summit *[Jericho Radio]* 12
Yemen's Vice President Meets Leaders *[Sanaa Radio]* 12
Iraqi Foreign Minister Meets Leaders *[Baghdad TV]* 13
Further on Iraqi Minister's Meetings *[Baghdad TV]* 13
Bhutto Meets With Velayati *[Islamabad Radio]* 14
Bhutto: NAM Should Accept Views *[Islamabad Radio]* 14
Condemnation of Terrorism Noted *[Delhi Radio]* 15
Ramos Calls For NAM UN Representation *[Quezon City Radio]* 15
NAM Supports Spratlys Resolution *[Quezon City Radio]* 15
Singapore's Jayakumar Addresses Summit *[Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES 20 Oct]* 15
India's Rao Addresses Summit *[Delhi Radio]* 16

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

IDB President: No Aid to Cuba Without Democratization *[TELAM]* 20
Officials Discuss Traffic of Illegal Migrants *[ACAN]* 20

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Reportage on Fidel Castro's Visit to New York 21
Castro Arrives for UN Anniversary *[Havana Radio]* 21
'Pleased' With Visit to New York *[Havana Radio]* 21
Addresses UN General Assembly *[PRENSA LATINA]* 21
Meets Emigres, Journalists *[Havana TV]* 22
Interviewed by CNN Journalist *[Havana TV]* 24
Radio Report on CNN Interview *[Havana Radio]* 30
Delivers Speech in Harlem *[PRENSA LATINA]* 30
Diplomat: Castro 'Most Credible' Delegate *[Havana Radio]* 31
Castro's Presence Said Focus of Attention in Cartagena *[Havana Radio]* 31
Alarcon Interviewed on UN, Nonaligned Movement *[Havana TV]* 32
Alarcon Urges 'Forceful Rejection' of Helms-Burton Bill *[Havana Radio]* 36
Alarcon Comments on Progress Report Assemblies *[Havana TV]* 37
Raul Castro Bids Farewell to Russian Official *[Havana TV]* 37
Raul Castro Attends Ukrainian Embassy Reception *[PRENSA LATINA]* 37
Ukrainian Prime Minister Ends Stopover Visit *[Moscow ITAR-TASS]* 38

Ambassador To UN Views Anniversary Session, Needed Reforms *[Havana Radio]* 38

Haiti

Aristide Announces Upcoming Change of Government *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 39
Leblanc Refuses To Approve Michel's Resignation *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 40
New Prime Minister 'May Be Designated Next Week' *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 41
Senator Raymond Views Michel's Performance *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 41
Senators Adopt Measures Against Absentees *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 41

MEXICO

PEMEX Sales to U.S. Increase 63 Percent *[EL FINANCIERO 17 Oct]* 43
Ambassador Studies Trade Outlook With Russia *[NOTIMEX]* 43
Forum for Unity Participants Approve Provisional Council *[LA JORNADA 12 Oct]* 44

CENTRAL AMERICA

Costa Rica

Assembly Passes 'Protest' Against Senator's Proposal *[ACAN]* 45

Guatemala

De Leon Carpio Comments on Ibero-American Summit *[Guatemala City TV]* 45
PLP Presidential Candidate Hurt in Helicopter Accident *[ACAN]* 46
Special Prosecutor Handling Xaman Massacre Resigns *[PRENSA LIBRE 17 Oct]* 46
Agrarian Office: Peace Negotiations Void After 5 Years *[PRENSA LIBRE 17 Oct]* 47

Honduras

Spokesman for Accused Officers Files for Protection *[EL PERIODICO DE HONDURAS 20 Oct]* 48
Army Chief on Arrest Warrants *[Tegucigalpa TV]* 48

Nicaragua

National Assembly Approves Report on New Election Law *[EL NUEVO DIARIO 18 Oct]* 49

Panama

President: Trade With Cuba To Continue Despite Embargo *[EL PANAMA AMERICA 20 Oct]* 50
President: No One To 'Dictate' Friends *[LA PRENSA 19 Oct]* 50
Minister: U.S. Proposes Issues for Talks on Bases *[Panama City TV]* 51
Payment 'Least Important Point' *[EL PANAMA AMERICA 19 Oct]* 51
Presence Expected To Yield Benefits *[LA PRENSA 19 Oct]* 52

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Menem on Clinton Letter, Bariloche Summit, Interest Rates *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 53
Foreign Ministry Communique Confirms Major-Menem Meeting *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 53
Reportage on Shooting of Iranian Economic Attache 54
Police Superintendent Describes Incident *[TELAM]* 54
Link to AMIA Bombing Not Ruled Out *[Madrid EFE]* 54
Zionist Group Claims Responsibility *[IRNA]* 55

Iranian Diplomats' Security Heightened *[Madrid EFE]* 55
Envoy Recovering After Surgery *[Tehran IRNA]* 55

Chile

Frei Leaves for New York 'Very Calm,' Says 'Law Prevails' *[Madrid EFE]* 55
Imprisonment of General Manuel Contreras Viewed 56
Leaves Hospital *[Madrid EFE]* 56
Enters Prison *[Madrid EFE]* 56
Politicians React Positively *[NOTIMEX]* 56
Attacks After Imprisonment Seen *[Madrid EFE]* 57

Colombia

President Samper 'Pleased' With Clinton UN Speech *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 58
U.S. Said To Place Conditions on Pallomari Questioning *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 58
Justice Minister Discusses Court Ruling *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* 58
Executive Asks Congress To Pass Internal Disturbance Law *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 60
Valdivieso Admits Difference With Attorney General's Office *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 60
Cali Cartel Reportedly Executed Covert DEA Agent, Wife *[NOTIMEX]* 61

Ecuador

Opposition Requests 'Criminal Action' Against Duran-Ballen *[Quito Radio]* 61
Colonel Declares Duran-Ballen Decree on Documents Illegal *[Quito Radio]* 61
Attorney General Says Dahik's Extradition 'Possible' *[Madrid EFE]* 62
New Vice President's Background, Future Role Viewed *[Madrid EFE]* 62
'Uncertainty Prevails' in Financial Markets After Crisis *[Madrid EFE]* 63
Armed Forces Sue Lawmaker Over Charges *[Madrid EFE]* 64
Gustavo Ortega Appointed Ambassador to Belgium *[Madrid EFE]* 64

Peru

Fujimori: Peace Achieved Without Foreign Participation *[Madrid EFE]* 64
APRA Command Chief Resigns for 'Lack of Support' *[Madrid EFE]* 65
Officers Accused in Barrios Altos Case Benefit From Amnesty *[Madrid EFE]* 65
Suspension of Tourist Visa Requirement for 94 Countries *[Madrid EFE]* 65

Uruguay

Editorial Views Outcome of Castro's Visit *[EL OBSERVADOR 16 Oct]* 66

Venezuela

Caldera Calls For Institutions To Play Proper Roles *[EL NACIONAL 17 Oct]* 66
Caldera Views Exchange Control, Media 'Errors' *[Caracas TV]* 67
President Caldera Replies to Congress Letter *[EL UNIVERSAL 19 Oct]* 67
Political Blocs React to Letter *[Caracas TV]* 68
Government To Request More Aid To Fight Drugs *[EL NACIONAL 17 Oct]* 69
Minister Predicts Lifting of Price Controls in 1996 *[Caracas TV]* 70

Reportage on Concluding Events at Nonaligned Summit

Colombia's Samper Interviewed on Summit

PA2010155795 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Oct 95

[Telephone interview with Colombian President Ernesto Samper by Dario Arizmendi and Judith Sarmiento; from "Caracol's 0600 to 0900" newscast; place not given — live]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Arizmendi] Attention, it is 0830, and we have direct contact with President Dr. Ernesto Samper Pizano. Good morning, Mr. President.

[Samper] Good morning, Dario.

[Arizmendi] Were you playing tennis before heading for the convention center to close the Nonaligned Summit?

[Samper] Yes, sir, I was getting a little exercise.

[Arizmendi] Were you playing with Foreign Minister Rodrigo Pardo?

[Samper] No, I have him working already.

[Arizmendi] Do you always say you must win when playing tennis?

[Samper] No, my contenders know who should win, which is different.

[Arizmendi] What are the rules of the game of tennis, Mr. President?

[Samper] The first one is that the president must never lose.

[Arizmendi] The second?

[Samper] If he loses, those who play against him must go.

[Arizmendi] But you did not mention the third one that Edgar Artunduaga practices well: You must always play with toads [sapos].

[Samper] Yes, of course, because otherwise the first two conditions would not be met.

[Arizmendi] That is great, Mr. President. On a serious note now, what is your opinion as president of Colombia on the Nonaligned Summit that will close soon in Cartagena?

[Samper] It has been an excellent opportunity to showcase the country. I have felt great national pride during the summit because we were capable of organizing an event of this nature. This will completely change Colombia's international image, because more than 55 heads of state, including prime ministers and presidents, were able to attend. This tells the world that things are accomplished in Colombia, that this country is advancing and working.

[Arizmendi] In your talks with Cuban President Fidel Castro, did you touch on the domestic problem, subversion and guerrillas in Colombia?

[Samper] No bilateral topics were touched. I discussed commerce with the 17 heads of state I met yesterday.

[Arizmendi] Your impression of Yasir 'Arafat?

[Samper] A very warm, very committed person. A leader in the full sense of the word. A person who sincerely wants peace for his people and the Israeli people.

[Arizmendi] Indonesian President Suharto?

[Samper] A reserved but very effective person.

[Arizmendi] Mrs. Bhutto of Pakistan?

[Samper] A train engine [locomotora].

[Arizmendi] UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali?

[Samper] Tranquil and calm. A person who has the virtue of discretion.

[Arizmendi] Who did you like the best?

[Samper] Perhaps everyone. Yesterday I met with all the leaders of African countries. The truth is that they are admirable countries, countries with many needs, but with young leaders who, as is our case, are struggling for their countries.

[Arizmendi] President, what was their most common question about Colombia or yourself?

[Samper] They had many questions about our institutions. They wanted to know about the structure of our education. Education is an issue that obsesses all leaders. How to organize the education system, how to assess persons. I think that they are on the right track.

[Sarmiento] How did you do with protocol, languages, and all the rules that you have had to follow during this international [word indistinct] especially yesterday afternoon?

[Samper] As for protocol, that is already established. I am the antithesis of protocol. I like much more personalized contacts, much warmer contacts if possible. Despite the formality of diplomatic relations, we tried to establish good personal relations, and that is what we managed to do with the leaders who attended. I think this was most important. As for the languages, as Garcia

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Marquez has said, the universal language is poorly spoken English, and that is how we understood each other.

[Arizmendi] When speaking at the United Nations next week, will you do so as president of the Colombians or also as president of the nonaligned?

[Samper] Mainly as president of Colombia, but obviously, my comments will be deemed as the opinions of the president of the group of nonaligned countries.

[Arizmendi] What will be the line of your speech to close the summit, Mr. President?

[Samper] I will summarize the points of the mandate that I think I received here in Cartagena, and also my immediate goals.

[Arizmendi] How much time will you take away from your daily schedule to deal with issues related to the Nonaligned Movement?

[Samper] Dario, the same time that... [pause] I would not say take way, but I will spend the same time I did over the past year of government to handle international policy. What should be understood is that starting now, all of Colombia's international policy will revolve around the nonaligned. Issues such as the opening to Africa, our membership in the institutions of the Pacific, the strengthening of our relations with the United States, and our ties with the European Union. The difference now, using radio jargon, is that we will have a larger audience.

[Arizmendi] But will you come out in favor of reforms to the United Nations and an increase in the number of members of the Security Council?

[Samper] We are going to study that point, and it is very likely that I will make a pronouncement on that point within the framework of the United Nations.

[Sarmiento] President, in addition to the Cartagena document on bilateral relations, on the agreements which you reached with some presidents, undoubtedly the NAM is a good international screen, as we would say, because it will greatly enhance Colombia's image after this.

[Samper] Yes, imagine with the presence of 1,000 newsmen who circulated in Colombia the images that were transmitted by all local newsmen, because it was not only the international networks. Each president arrived with his respective radio, televised, and written media. I was able to confirm this in the meetings with the presidents. In each meeting there were at least 10 or 15 newsmen from each country.

[Arizmendi] Should we assume that Minister Rodrigo Pardo Garcia-Pena is going to remain as foreign minister, after having superbly organized this NAM summit?

[Samper] Of course, we must attribute the merits to many persons here, to the Foreign Ministry team, to the people in Cartagena, to the National Navy, which was in charge of logistical affairs, and, of course, the foreign minister, who arranged the topics and prepared the event itself.

[Arizmendi] Can we surmise that Colombia got its way, because the national government obtained broad support in a proposal, such as the holding of the international drug summit?

[Samper] Yes, this was one of the objectives that I had contemplated. As you know this was a proposal made by some countries within the Rio Group in Quito a few weeks ago. It was endorsed enthusiastically by the European Union and by the Ibero-American summit. I think this proposal is gaining headway and will be very important for Colombia, because as we get the international community to understand that the drug problem is not exclusively ours, well, things can only get better.

[Arizmendi] What reforms does the mandate given to you by the NAM contemplate?

[Samper] There are some proposals in the final document, but basically, I will conduct some consultations in New York so that such proposals reflect a balanced position, but favorable to the interests of developing countries. Now I am going to have to leave you, because I am not going to be able to make things on time.

[Arizmendi] No, Mr. President, just two more things.

[Sarmiento] I want to ask you, Mr. President, how are you after all of these days of hectic activity? I imagine you are tired, but satisfied?

[Samper] Yes, I am very happy and satisfied. I believe, as I told you, we have been able to portray a different image of Colombia, a more positive image. I hope this will serve Colombians to boost their pride somewhat.

[Arizmendi] What do you respond to those national and foreign critics who say the NAM is good for nothing?

[Samper] I would say that is a very myopic appraisal. I believe that the fact that Colombia is presiding over an organization of 114 countries, which have similar conditions and problems as Colombia, is something that is very positive for Colombia. On the contrary, we should feel very proud of having this responsibility. It is the most important international responsibility that Colombia has had in all its history.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Arizmendi] Where did they fail in the summit, Mr. President?

[Samper] I don't believe there have been any major failures. There have been logistical problems and minor things, but I think the people left very happy, unless they were all telling us lies.

[Arizmendi] [chuckles]

[Samper] They were all very happy.

[Arizmendi] Who was the president, the delegate that impressed you the most personally?

[Samper] I recognize I was impressed by 'Arafat, undoubtedly. I was impressed by the Egyptian foreign minister, who was very down-to-earth, very accurate. I was impressed by the president of Zimbabwe, who was very upright in his positions, and of course, the delegation from Pakistan and India, which are the eastern concepts of leadership.

[Arizmendi] Who did you grapple with the most?

[Samper] With all of them, Dario, in general.

[Arizmendi] Did Cartagena fit the bill? Was it up to that stature?

[Samper] Yes, as was the rest of the country.

[Arizmendi] President, thank you for being with "Caracol's 0600 to 0900" newscast and congratulations.

[Samper] Thank you.

Samper Holds News Conference

PA2010220595 Santa Fe de Bogota Radiodifusora Nacional de Colombia in Spanish 1743 GMT 20 Oct 95

[News conference by Colombian President Ernesto Samper with domestic and foreign reporters and an unidentified moderator at the close of the 11th Nonaligned Movement Summit at the Convention Center in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia; broadcast in progress — live relay]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Samper] ...has been working intensely not only in the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] Summit but in other aspects pertaining to national life with the approval of development, the budget, and implementation of many initiatives that were even picked up by the summit, all of which are topics that are being handled institutionally, which is how they should be handled within the framework of a democracy.

We have accepted the commitment to preside over NAM for the coming term. We have a working agenda and a navigation charter, which was approved this morning in the declaration known as the Appeal From Colombia. The countries that have placed their confidence in Colombia can [45-second break in reception]

[Reporter] ...of confrontation with Western powers, specifically with the United States. Do you think holding the presidency will further strain the differences between your government and the U.S. Government?

[Samper] No, I do not see why it should, either with the Colombian Government or any other government participating in NAM. The United States, as other industrialized nations—some of which even form part of the NAM as invited guests, as is the case with Germany—as I said this morning is for us more a part of the solution than the problem. We also stated that although the ideological differences over nonalignment have ceased, because we are no longer divided between communists and capitalists, the truth is the problems of developing countries are not over. In the same way, just as industrialized countries meet to analyze their own positions on common problems, we believe there are problems that are and will continue to be common problems of developing countries for a long time, such as the struggle against poverty, environmental protection, access to the so-called production sectors, and technology and capital.

We believe that in the current world circumstances, although it implies we do not have different concepts regarding problems, it is more effective to promote concerted efforts than conflicts and confrontations. In short, the 120 countries constituting the NAM represent more than 60 or 70 percent of the world population, and this point is something that has to be taken into consideration.

[Moderator] Guillermo Tovar of EFE.

[Tovar] Mr. President. What will Colombia do for the next three years as the head of the NAM. What can the members expect in terms of specific actions planned by your government?

[Samper] Let us see. I would prefer to express a political will. We think the movement in the next three years must establish positions on reforms of international policy. We still believe the venue that remains valid for the expression of these countries is the UN system, provided it is subject to reforms, so that not only our voices will be heard but so that our votes will be considered.

Secondly, as developing nations, our countries need access to technology, capital, and trade. NAM's actions will head in that direction in the next three years. How can our countries develop their own technologies in a world in which the ownership of knowledge marks the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

difference between developed and undeveloped countries? How can our countries have access to the industrialized countries that increasingly set up tariff barriers that preclude trading among our countries, which is countering the general trend to deregulate trade? How can these countries have access to capital? I am talking about three specific initiatives, a technological initiative, a financial initiative, and a [word indistinct] initiative, which we are going to develop and which we are going to propose and defend at the forums where the respective decisions on these topics are made.

[Moderator] Gustavo Gonzalez from Interpress Service.

[Gonzalez] Good afternoon, Mr. President. The document approved by NAM refers to [words indistinct] human rights, but there is no reference to individual human rights. [Words indistinct] with human rights. What should we do to stop this situation?

[Samper] The human rights problem is not one of image but, rather, realities. What we have to do is to understand, as we are doing in Colombia, that we gain nothing by saying human rights are not being violated. What we have to do is to prevent human rights from being violated. Colombia has recognized the existence of human rights problems within our borders. We are willing to improve the human rights situation in our country, the reason why we have [words indistinct] in all military barracks. We have also signed Protocol II of the Geneva Convention on the humanization of war, giving our conflicts a more ethical conception. [Words indistinct] this way of understanding our human rights situation without disregarding cases of human rights violation, which should be useful for other governments within NAM. We will share experiences in that regard.

[Moderator] Fabio Callejas from Emisoras Caracol.

[Callejas] Good afternoon, Mr. President. [Words indistinct] the UN Security Council, and do you agree that world powers such as Japan should participate in the Council, and should it be in tune with the needs of the countries of NAM, over which you are now presiding?

[Samper] We not only agree with an expansion of the Council, but we also agree developing countries should participate in a more prominent manner in the decisions of the Security Council. On 23 October we will hold a meeting in New York with the six nonaligned countries that form part of the Security Council. There, I hope to discuss a series of proposals to reform the UN Security Council Charter that could be officially submitted on behalf of the movement.

[Moderator] Maribel Osorio from the "QAP News" newscast.

[Osorio] The document [words indistinct] provides us tools to [words indistinct]. What tools do you have to get your objectives to be fulfilled and not just be nice words?

[Samper] Up to a certain point, the central document is a type of X-ray of how these 111 countries look at themselves at this time and how they see their relations with their bilateral and regional neighbors. The second document that was approved, which we believe is the mandate we picked up in this summit, is a call made from Colombia.

This document includes a series of concrete recommendations on which the points the action of the movement should concentrate. These are the points on which we will focus during the coming years, such as the issues I highlighted; that is, access to production factors, access to technology, access to financial means, access to commerce services. Other equally important issues are the issue of conventional disarmament, the issue of protection of biodiversity, and the follow-up of recommendations of certain summits held recently, such as the Women's Conference in Beijing.

We are going to create working groups in New York that will be tasked with presenting concrete initiatives on these issues, not more recommendations. These groups will work on how we can implement these recommendations so they may materialize. Second, Colombia will open a Permanent Secretariat at the Foreign Ministry, which will follow up on each and every point on the agenda we will announce in January of next year.

[Moderator] Mr. President, with your permission, we want to inform colleagues that the foreign minister of Bosnia-Herzegovina is here and will answer questions from reporters, following the news conference by the president of Colombia

William Parra of the "CM& Newscast" will take the next question.

[Parra] Regarding drug trafficking, NAM countries have stated the need for the struggle of drug producing countries to be waged based on respect for sovereignty and free from coercion. In this regard, does Colombia feel its sovereignty is being undermined by the United States, given it has threatened to impose certain sanctions?

[Samper] The truth is there is a big move in favor of convening a world conference on narcotics. This idea received clear and explicit support here from document signatory countries. As you know, the past meeting of the Rio Group in Quito, Ecuador, recommended that this meeting be held at the regional level initially and at the world level later. We are convinced the drug problem

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

will not be resolved in drug producing countries alone or in drug consuming countries alone. As long as we do not understand there is a shared responsibility that should be binding to all concerned, we are not going to be able to advance clearly and effectively in overcoming the drug problem.

Drug consumption is just as important as drug production; demand is as important as production; therefore, 'his is not a matter of having one party blame others for what it did not do. There is no effective way to resolve this problem if drug producing and drug consuming countries do not make an equally effective commitment to do so.

[Moderator] Mr. President, Arturo Melendez of Colombia's COLPRENSA News Agency will make the next question.

[Melendez] Good afternoon, Mr. President. What is NAM's expectation concerning the World Bank and IMF, within the framework of reformulating the world institutions created 50 years ago?

[Samper] No specific proposal has been made regarding the reform of the economic mechanisms of the [words indistinct] system. There is hope these mechanisms can be reformed so that countries have a more democratic participation in utilizing and benefiting from these funds. We will work [words indistinct] foreign debt initiative.

The foreign debt problem continues to be a serious problem for many NAM member countries, and although the problem disappeared from the accounting records of creditor banks because the debt was either [word indistinct] or paid, the truth is the costs of the necessary adjustment to pay the foreign debt and financial commitments are still a burden on the economies of many developing countries.

Samper Closes Summit

PA2010193995 Santa Fe de Bogota Radiodifusora Nacional de Colombia in Spanish 1657 GMT 20 Oct 95

[Speech by Colombian President Ernesto Samper Pizano at the closing meeting of the 11th Nonaligned Movement Summit at the Convention Center in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia — live relay]

[FBIS Translated Text] Dear friends: We have reached the end of this historic Nonaligned Movement [NAM] Summit. Never before had the concepts of peace and solidarity, which have founded this movement, been as necessary and valid as they are today. Our challenge now is to find conditions that will permit us to guarantee the prevalence of these postulates.

As NAM president, I am clear on my mandate. The first commitment is to find the institutional conditions that will permit the movement to exercise a (?genuine) influence and not simply rhetoric in the course of world events. We cannot continue complaining before the world. We must pass from words to deeds and from idealism to action.

Reforms to the United Nations offer us the first opportunity to act. The UN system must become our best venue to maintain balance in the world. Its reforms must be oriented toward having our vote count. It does not suffice to have our voice heard. As president, I will constitute in the coming days specific working groups on reforms to the UN Security Council, the Bosnia-Herzegovina conflict, the problem of foreign debt, the dismounting of neo-protectionism, development and access to technology, protection of biodiversity, and the situation of women in our countries. We will fulfill the existing recommendations. The only pending recommendation is one that will say: No more recommendations, fulfill the pending recommendations.

We will take our concerns to qualified forums. Without sacrificing our identity as a movement, we will seek open and fruitful dialogues with industrialized countries. They are part of the solution to our necessities.

We will develop effective forms of South-South cooperation through the use of specific instruments such as the South Center, the support of which I recommend from all the delegations.

In the next few months, a specialized team will present to the UN Coordination Group a specific proposal on the [words indistinct] among the members of the movement and the rules for admitting new observers and invited countries.

We will reactivate the Methodology Committee. I accept the proposal to create a constructive troika comprising the last president of the Nonaligned Movement, in this case Indonesia, the current president, Colombia, and the president for the period starting in 1998. As soon as the African group officially chooses its candidate, I will proceed to convene it. This will allow us to preserve the continuity of our duties and proposals in the future.

Starting next year, I will carry out this mandate with a specific working agenda in such a way so as to guarantee the active participation of all of you in the meetings and forums, through which we will implement the principles of nonalignment as soon as possible.

Colombia will open up a permanent executive secretariat to coordinate all NAM activities. A follow-up committee will be created in New York to carry out each and every one of the points of this agenda.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

We have a long road ahead of us. We will move on from confrontation to cooperation, from conflict to consensus, from [word indistinct] to solidarity.

In summation, I would like to publicly thank all those who have made the organization of this summit possible. I want to thank the foreign minister and his excellent working team and Ambassador Ramiro Osorio, who coordinated the event. I would like to thank all the heads of state for their presence in Cartagena. Thanks to you, Colombia was able to enjoy days of greatness. Our challenge was certainly not easy. Accustomed to negative news about Colombia every day, I am certain many of you thought about the risks before coming to Cartagena. Fortunately, none of you missed his appointment with Colombia.

Thanks for allowing us to show the other face of our country, the kind, pretty face, the face of a nation that has suffered a great deal but preserves its soul intact.

Our best reward will be that tomorrow you will speak of Colombia as a nation in which people live, work, and enjoy themselves peacefully.

I also want to thank Cartagena de Indias and the people of Cartagena. Your affection and hospitality made these days unforgettable for our distinguished visitors.

Cartagena met its responsibilities with Colombia and Colombia met its responsibilities with the world. Have a safe trip. Thank you very much. [applause]

Colombian Foreign Minister on Summit

PA2010174695 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1340 GMT 20 Oct 95

[Interview with Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Pardo by Dario Arizmendi, Diana Montoya and Edgar Artunduaga in Cartagena, Colombia; from "Caracol's 0600 to 0900" newscast — live]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Arizmendi] We have just talked with the president of the Republic who reviewed the summit for us. He praised your work and also told us that you have been ratified in the cabinet. If there is a crisis, you will remain in the foreign ministry and will not be transferred to another ministry as had been speculated in certain circles. How do you feel as a ratified minister?

[Pardo] Very happy, I believe that Colombia has a very big responsibility in the diplomatic field. It is an extraordinary challenge but it is also an invitation to creativity and action because the president of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] has a great international vision and has access to many forums, he has the possibility of being linked to the great topics of world politics, therefore, I believe this is very important for the country.

[Arizmendi] Will Colombia's international policy change now that it is heading the NAM? Will there be ideological or philosophical changes?

[Pardo] No, Dario. It is important to say it. What will change is the prominence and strength of our positions and of our policy. We do not have to change our positions. There are many cases in which the NAM adopts positions, which we, as country, cannot agree with. I can give you two examples. The Cartagena Document contains a paragraph expressing solidarity with Libya. In this case we used the mechanism of making a reservation because we do not agree with the use of proper names. We do not agree with the mentioning of world powers such as France, UK, and the United States and criticizing them in their conflict with Libya. We made a reservation there. We have a different, more moderate position than the one the NAM has. The same holds true for Bosnia-Herzegovina. The NAM did not reach an agreement in Cartagena for admitting Bosnia into the movement, however, Colombia as a country, established relations with this country, with which we are saying that we do want to have a political gesture of solidarity with Bosnia-Herzegovina. We have an international policy based on traditions, based on principles, and we are going to keep adopting those same positions and policies, but as president of the NAM, we are going to have a little bit more of vision and attention with the international community.

[Montoya] Foreign Minister Pardo, what is importance or significance of the NAM as a prelude to the UN meeting? What is the importance of Colombia's position following the NAM meeting?

[Pardo] I believe the most important thing is that a big debate about the UN Charter reform topic took place here. There is no doubt that the nonaligned countries want a change in the United Nations that is not limited to something being mentioned in UN halls quite often, which is the admission of Japan and Germany into the Security Council. The NAM believes we must think in larger terms and if the Security Council is going to be expanded, we must also think about members of regional groups from developing nations. In addition to this, President Samper will have the possibility of meeting with the members of the nonpermanent group of the Security Council, who also form part of the nonaligned movement, currently some six or seven countries. The NAM wants to set certain guidelines of action and behavior about the measures the Security Council will take regarding international topics.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Arizmendi] Is the Foreign Ministry going to be reorganized in order to adapt it to the new demands stemming from the NAM and Colombia's presidency?

[Pardo] I believe this is a commitment involving the entire foreign ministry because the topic of the NAM is obviously in the multilateral area. The NAM has an essentially multilateral significance, however, we want to develop bilateral relations with the nonaligned countries and we want to take advantage of this opportunity. More than just reorganizing the foreign ministry, I believe we have to make great efforts of coordination in the various offices in order to respond to the great variety of topics with which the NAM has to deal. What we have done is to strengthen an office called Directorate of Multilateral Affairs, led by Dr. Jaime Giron. There we have appointed specialists on the most important topics of the NAM.

[Montoya] The persons who were able to see you in action at the Convention Center noted that even though you assigned many duties to many persons, you were still in charge of many minor details going from what was stated at the final document to organizational details such as which president spoke first. You were in charge of those details. Aren't you a bit tired?

[Pardo] I am a bit tired. There was important teamwork here. Many people from the foreign ministry participated. We had the cooperation from the office in charge of the organization of the summit, the office led by Dr. Ramiro Osorio. We had the help of people we hired such as Mauricio Bengoechea. We had the assistance of persons who were in charge of the Technical Secretariat such as Dr. Maria Angela Holguin. It was teamwork in which we all worked with great enthusiasm. I believe we are all a bit tired today but we are pleased. As for what you mentioned, Diana, once the meeting started, it was up to us to put out all types of fires. Certain situations emerged. Yesterday the list of speakers was in the hands of Dr. Fernando Alzate, who also did a great work. This situation led to many fights because everyone wanted to speak first. For instance, every time a leader knew the representative of country with which his own country has a conflict or problem was going to deliver a speech, he asked to speak first to prevent the other country from fixing a position that could put him against the wall later.

[Montoya] As for putting out fires, it seems you have been getting used to it lately.

[Pardo] There were lots of fires to put our here. There were problems with the registration of certain organizations that were friends of one country and enemies of another. There were lots of fires to put out here. [passage omitted]

[Artunduaga] A newspaper article noted you are a discreet and upright man, which is vital for getting the presidents' confidence.

[Pardo] I have realized, Edgar, that in these government duties, discretion helps a great deal. The handling of certain topics, for example, is very difficult. If topics become part of the debate before a decision is made, their handling becomes difficult. What happens in these cases is that governments lose their capability to take action. I remember that former U.S. President John Kennedy talked about it. He was very clear. He said that he was greatly concerned because when things were about to be decided, huge debates emerged, and then the decision would be influenced by the debate. That is true. Citizens today are more informed than ever. They have much more access to information than ever before. There is improvement in the media, but I believe it is better for the media to report on the governments' actions than on their decisionmaking processes. [passage omitted]

[Arizmendi] What is the most unpleasant moment you have had to experience as foreign minister?

[Pardo] The most difficult situations I have had to experience were the relations with the United States, the incident we experienced in Cararabo in March, and the meeting with the U.S. narcotics official. Those were perhaps the most difficult moments.

Cases of especially difficult moments are less frequent because as time goes by, we get to meet people and the people get to know you, but logically I do not look old enough to be foreign minister. Quite often, when I go to a certain place to meet another country's foreign minister, he tends to look everywhere for the Colombian foreign minister even though I am present.

[Arizmendi] You were once stopped because they did not believe you were the foreign minister.

[Pardo] It happens to me quite often. It even happened to me at the Colombian Foreign Ministry when I was appointed deputy foreign minister under the Gaviria administration. The day I got to the Foreign Ministry, I was not allowed in.

[Artunduaga] You are physically a small man. You do not have a strong voice. How do you get people to respect you inside and outside the foreign ministry?

[Pardo] I am convinced that the strength of diplomacy and politics in general is not based on a tone of voice, but on the firmness and conviction of what is being said. I believe respect comes more from what is being said than from the tone of voice. What one has to earn is credibility and respect and I believe Colombia has

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

earned it in the diplomatic field. One tends to forget that in this country where we have just held the NAM Summit, which is something that [words indistinct] a few years, we have also held the [word indistinct], the Rio Group Summit, and the Ibero-American Summit. This is a country that has been building up its respect at the international level. I believe respect is based on our firmness.

[Montoya] Even though you already met the majority of the world leaders that came to this NAM Summit because you personally went to their countries to invite and to convince them to come here. Some of them probably caught your attention.

[Pardo] I did not know the prime minister of Pakistan. She is undoubtedly a very special person. I believe the most applauded speech was hers. It was a applause that was not protocol. It was almost an affectionate applause. It was sort of in response to the undeniable charisma she has. That caught my attention. Perhaps what caught my attention the most in this summit was that some of the leaders, who participated in other summits, played a different role on this occasion. The Cuban president, for example. The Cuban president came dressed in civilian clothes. He strictly remained within the time limits. Castro spoke for eight hours during the NAM Summit in New Delhi in 1983, when he was turning over the presidency. The PLO president, for example, who was a great personality here and all journalists were behind him, has proposed completely different things in other NAM meetings. The Arafat that was here was the winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. [passage omitted]

[Arizmendi] We have the coordinator of the Committee of Associations of Cartagena, Dr. Bernard Griffith who wants to participate in this conversation.

[Griffith] We want to ask you about the proposal made by Cartagena Mayor Guillermo Paniza to the president. He proposed that Cartagena should be the permanent site for NAM meetings.

[Pardo] The summit has shown that Cartagena is in essence the headquarters of Colombian diplomacy. All the meetings we will need to hold as long as Colombia presides over the NAM, will undoubtedly be held in Cartagena. I believe it is an excellent idea. Obviously the NAM operates in many forums, in New York, in Geneva, in the United Nations, and it is obviously a commitment the Colombian Foreign Ministry has. I totally agree that Cartagena should be the permanent site for all the meetings we will need to hold. Things always come out right here. There is infrastructure here. The people of Cartagena are great people. They help out a great deal and I like this proposal because it shows that those who said it was a mistake to hold the meeting in Cartagena and that it was not good for the city were wrong.

[Montoya] Even though you did not have much time, you were able to take time to jog, but now you will have to jog with the United Nations, don't you think?

[Pardo] President Samper will attend the 50th anniversary of the United Nations. He will speak there. He will also meet with the nonaligned members of the Security Council. He will also speak to the Council of International Relations. The president will return on Tuesday night. We also have a meeting with the Peruvian foreign minister and with the Peruvian-Colombian Neighborhood Commission toward the end of the week. The following week I will travel to the United States to attend a seminar at the University of Maryland to talk about U.S. relations with Colombia.

[Arizmendi] Guillermo Rodriguez would like to ask you a question from the Convention Center.

[Rodriguez] Good morning, minister. What official information do you have regarding alleged incidents involving the entry of Venezuelan military units into the Perija region as proven by Dr. Ramiro Zambrano, chief of the Territorial Integrity Unit of the Foreign Ministry?

[Pardo] Dr. Zambrano made a report on this. I understand it confirms these charges, but I have not read the report yet. It has not been sent to me here in Cartagena. [passage omitted]

NAM Issues 'Appeal From Colombia'

PA2010182195 Santa Fe de Bogota Radiodifusora Nacional de Colombia in Spanish 1616 GMT 20 Oct 95

["Text" of "Appeal from Colombia" read by NAM Secretary General Ramiro Osorio at the closing meeting of the 11th Nonaligned Movement Summit in the Convention Center in Cartagena de Indias — live]

[FBIS Translated Text] The chiefs of state and government of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM], meeting in the heroic city of Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, make a fervent appeal for peace and development of our countries. We underline the important changes that have been experienced within the international framework over the past years. Many of the conflicts that emerged in the past decades have been resolved, while a noticeable increase in trade and a dynamic development of integration mechanisms at regional and subregional level are observed. Significant progress has been achieved in the scientific level. Life expectancy has increased, while there is expanded coverage in literacy programs and a notable reduction in the rate of infant mortality in developing countries.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

There exists a renewed mentality, favorable to replacing confrontation with cooperation and a manifest interest toward the social and economic development of the countries. Nonetheless, we view with concern the progressive diminishing of expectations created following the cold war period. The problems we have faced for a long time and which we believed would be settled gradually, with the detente of the bipolar confrontation, in many cases have heightened and are more obvious than in the past.

Although it is stated that the general economic situation has improved considerably, in many cases this improvement has only benefited a few, who have accumulated excessive amounts of wealth and power, while in several regions unemployment acquires alarming levels and poverty spreads inexorably, giving rise to social imbalances. Hunger has spiraled and illiteracy continues to be one of the biggest obstacles to improving living standards of our peoples. Furthermore, broad sectors of our society continue to lack basic medical services, including potable water, to satisfy their primary needs for survival.

At the risk of generating internal turmoil, we are working to open our economies. However, with different pretexts, some developed countries have continued to impose commercial, financial, and technological barriers which hinder and seriously block the processes we are carrying out. For many developing countries, particularly for the least developed, the problem of the debt has become one of the biggest obstacles for their economic takeoff and a drastic impediment to their social development.

Racial discrimination and xenophobia, which we considered had been overcome, have gained a new impetus. Many developing nations continue to be alienated, ethnical and religious minorities are dangerously threatened in many developed countries, while the protests stemming from these situations are stifled by indifference on many occasions. Some 24 million persons, including the elderly, women, and children, who have been forced to leave their homes and wander like refugees, as a result of the political, racial, or religious intolerance, harbor the hope of a solution to their difficult situation.

New methods have emerged to destabilize the governments of developing countries. Each time the use of slander and distorted information is becoming more frequent against those who can hardly respond effectively with the precarious means at our disposition.

The new weapons exporters have taken advantage of the new international situation to increase their sales to developing countries, while the states where such businesses operate do not take effective measures to restrict the illicit trade and arms trafficking to terrorist groups, mercenaries, and common criminals, who have ready access to such weapons, thanks to the permissiveness of those who tolerate and promote this profitable business and benefit from this indolent attitude.

Notwithstanding the existence of a new framework in international relations, we are concerned by the persistence of the nuclear threat and threats of nuclear tests which expose our countries to disastrous effects. At the same time, thousands of nuclear weapons continue to pose a serious threat to the world. Our peoples are persistently threatened by the increasing risks stemming from the handling, movement, transfer, and irresponsible transfer of radioactive material and toxic waste, generated in industrialized countries. The problem is heightened by the fact that the countries of origin, on recognizing the danger that such materials represent in their respective territories, seek to eliminate them to oceanic spaces and terrestrial regions of developing countries.

Globalization and interdependence have benefited principally the industrialized countries. Many of our states continue to be isolated, widening the existing gap between rich and poor countries. Globalization has also caused problems and risks for many nonaligned countries that are obliged to face phenomena such as environmental contamination and the problem of illegal drugs, which originate in the prevailing permissiveness of certain developed countries.

Such considerations lead us to reiterate that nonalignment and its fundamental principles continue to be valid. Under the current circumstances, today more than ever it is a forum that provides a basic reference framework to coordinate our interests and positions at international level. In the face of such realities of this historic moment, the NAM seeks to promote its objectives through dialogue, based on mutual benefits and interests, genuine interdependence, and shared responsibility.

The NAM will continue to struggle at all costs for peace, independence, the sovereign equality of states, and nonintervention in internal affairs, which some now seek to encroach upon. At the same time, we will continue to work tirelessly on improving economic and social conditions, strengthening democracy, and free determination of the peoples. Consequently, convinced that our active and concerted position will permit us to achieve our common objectives, we adopt the following commitments, which we label the Appeal From Colombia.

1. We will continue to promote the restructuring, strengthening, and democratization of the United Nations, on the basis of the principles contained in its char-

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

ter and restructuring the international financial system, including the institutions of Bretton Woods, based on the principle of the sovereign equality of the states. We will intensify our efforts, aimed at achieving a general and complete disarmament, which will also include nuclear disarmament and the elimination of weapons of this type.

3. [Number as heard] We consider it indispensable to fully comply with the commitments agreed upon at the UN Conference on the Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, the World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen, the Fourth World Women's Conference in Beijing, the World Summit for Children in New York, the World Conference on Education for All [passage indistinct] as well as those agreed upon in the Uruguayan Round.

4. We will fight collectively against all kinds of coercive and unilateral conditions, measures, rules, and policies that they try to impose or that are imposed on us, as well as against the adoption of models that are alien to the religious, historical, and cultural particularities of our countries.

5. We will sponsor the eradication of the remnants of colonialism and foreign occupation, and we will act, in a coordinated manner, against the new interventionist trends.

6. We will maintain our call for a definitive solution of the debt problem of developing countries, including in particular the multilateral debt and the cancellation of the debt of less developed countries and those with lower income that are most severely affected.

7. We will promote the full application of the principles of the UN Charter and the provisions of International Law, particularly in regards to sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity.

In addition, the undersigned, heads of state or government, will abstain from using or threatening to use force against any state, and we will use the means contemplated by International Law to settle peacefully every controversy.

We will proceed to reduce military spending, so as to earmark those resources for the economic and social development of our peoples. We pledge to eradicate illiteracy and poverty.

We request Colombian President Ernesto Samper, in his capacity as president of our movement, to undertake the following actions:

1. To convey to the heads of state or government of the Group of Seven at the meetings said group convenes, the positions and concerns of NAM member countries expressed in our declaration.

2. To advance indispensable actions to promote, among NAM members, South-South cooperation as one of the fundamental objectives of our actions, with a view to achieving more collective self-sufficiency.

3. To formulate appropriate recommendations to review the functioning, procedure, and actions of the Movement within the framework of the principles governing us.

4. To advance the study and implementation of actions of the Movement, with a view to improving effectively the social condition of our peoples.

Finally, the heads of state or government of NAM countries express to President Ernesto Samper, to the people and Government of Colombia, our unconditional and absolute support for the brave and courageous struggle that they are decidedly waging against the scourge of drug trafficking, within the framework of their internal juridical system and the international commitments of which it is signatory.

They also expressed their resolute support to the initiative of Colombia and other developing countries to convene, within the framework of the United Nations, a World Conference on the Problem of Illicit Drugs.

Cuban Envoy Denies Summit 'Cubanized'

PA2110162795 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2317 GMT 17 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Cartagena de Indias, 17 Oct (NOTIMEX) — Cuban Ambassador to Colombia Jesus Martinez today denied that the 11th Nonaligned Movement [NAM] Summit has been Cubanized, even though its participants reject aggressive U.S. policies on the island.

The diplomat, who is attending the meeting being held at the Colombian sea resort of Cartagena de Indias, located on the Caribbean coast, recognized that his country's issue will be significant during the summit. He denied, however, that people are intending to [word indistinct].

Cuba is one of the 25 countries that founded NAM. Following World War II, they sought an anticolonial position that would oppose the increasing poverty prompted by the polarization of powers.

The final draft declaration of the NAM meeting includes a paragraph advocating a prompt end to the U.S. embargo against Cuban leader Fidel Castro's regime, an embargo that is adversely affecting the Cuban people noticeably.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

"It is not as if the meeting is going to be Cubanized. The thing is that, among nonaligned countries, there is a general consensus to reject aggressive U.S. policies, which do not constitute a mere bilateral problem, for they adversely affect all developing countries," Martinez pointed out.

The Cuban diplomat maintained that the fact that Colombia has taken the NAM presidency for three years is quite positive for Latin America, because it is a guarantee for strengthening the social development efforts the international organization needs to make.

Ambassador Martinez praised the Colombian Government's open frame of mind and explained that "the nonaligned countries could not have been in better hands to face the challenge their modernization poses, in accordance with the political changes taking place in the world."

The ambassador pointed to the proposals Colombian President Ernesto Samper made that "the rich countries must settle the social debt they owe the poor countries" through what he called a "social leap," which is more investments in the works for the poor segments of the population. [passage omitted]

Peru's Fujimori 'Harshest' Critic of Blockade

PY2010162495 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 19 Oct 95 p 30

["Exclusive" interview with Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori by Araceli Viceconte in Bariloche; date not given, first part is editorial]

[FBIS Translated Text] Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori surprised everybody for several reasons. First, he became one of the harshest critics of the Cuban blockade and second, he showed an almost fanatical optimism for the economic revival that he believes Latin America will soon experience.

Fujimori held an exclusive interview with CLARIN. On the first item he said: "The precedent of additional measures that tighten the blockade against Cuba may be fatal for Latin America."

That was President Fujimori's explanation for the paragraph added to the final declaration of the Fifth Ibero-American Summit on 17 October, which expresses "concern" over the intention of the U.S. Congress to reinforce the U.S. embargo on the island.

Fujimori left more than one president in Bariloche open mouthed due to the strong and surprising tone of his criticism.

"The blockade is unfair for the Cuban people," Fijimori told this newspaper.

Fujimori expects a brilliant future for Latin America and his country. He said: "Peru has great economic, social, and political stability and this gives us very positive parameters."

[Viceconte] There are also grave problems, like poverty.

[Fujimori] Our objective is now to stage a frontal attack on poverty. Naturally, for this we must attract considerable foreign investments. They are very important in our economy.

[Viceconte] Forecasts for the region have not been very promising since the collapse of the Mexican peso, particularly with respect to the flow of foreign capital.

[Fujimori] The Mexican crisis passed over Peru. It did not affect us. It only had a small effect on the stock market. In economic terms, we have a 10 percent inflation rate and a growth rate of around 8 percent.

Costa Rican NAM Membership Rejected

PA2210022595 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0147 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cartagena, 19 Oct (EFE) — Costa Rican President Jose Maria Figueres today regretted that his country was not admitted in Cartagena as a member of the Nonaligned Movement (NAM) but will continue working to achieve it.

In spite of the goodwill efforts by Colombia and even Cuban President Fidel Castro, Syria and Lebanon maintained their steadfast opposition to the admission of Costa Rica because, as they see it, that country must move its embassy in Israel from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv.

Costa Rica's rejection is seen as further evidence of the need to change the rules of the NAM to avoid veto situations.

Before departing for Costa Rica, Figueres told EFE that he will continue, after the 11th Cartagena Summit, to hold meetings to press for his country's admission.

"A reduced minority has made things a bit difficult for us, for now, but I trust that we will solve this," Figueres said.

Trying to put on a good face in view of the disappointing denial of membership, Figueres stressed that the countries that have opposed "have their rights and those positions must be respected."

"It worries me — he added — that Japan, who plays a major role in the world today, has requested to be here as an observer and it, too, was not able to do so."

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

The Japanese delegation left Cartagena on Wednesday when it was not able to have its petition for membership approved due to North Korea's refusal.

Figueres stated, therefore, that these two incidents "strengthen Colombian President Ernesto Samper's message on the need to carry out a modernization process."

This renewal process would include, for example, making certain decisions by a majority vote in order to prevent a few countries from having, in practice, the capacity to veto, such as has happened in the case of Costa Rica and Japan.

Precisely, the NAM countries want to propose the United Nations a number of changes to eliminate the right to veto of the five permanent member countries of the Security Council, since they have not found a solution to this very same problem.

Syria and Lebanon have refused the admission of Costa Rica because this country moved its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, which the Arabs consider the capital of Palestine.

Costa Rica was willing to issue a statement in support of UN resolutions on the Palestine question, but Syria and Lebanon insisted the embassy should be withdrawn from Jerusalem.

Jose Maria Figueres said he recognized the efforts made by various Latin American countries, especially the efforts made by the Colombian president in favor of the admission of Costa Rica, a country which will next year preside the so-called Group of 77, comprising developing nations that will also promote North-South cooperation.

The 11th NAM Summit will end tomorrow, Friday, 20 October, with the approval of a final declaration and a series of proposals to modernize the movement and strengthen its role in the future.

'Arafat Meets Leaders at NAM Summit

JN2010145895 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1400 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] On the sidelines of the Nonaligned Movement's [NAM] summit in Colombia, President Yasir 'Arafat today met with the heads of delegations of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Burundi, the Ukraine, Vietnam, Mozambique, and Guinea-Bissau.

At these meetings President 'Arafat reviewed recent developments in the Middle East peace process in light of the agreement on the second phase of the Palestinian-Israeli Declaration of Principles. The conferees discussed bilateral relations, and the role these countries can play in building the Palestinian economy.

His excellency chaired this morning's session of the NAM summit. He also attended the reception ceremony hosted by the Colombian president in honor of the heads of delegations taking part in the summit.

Late last night, President 'Arafat met with representatives of the Palestinian community in Colombia. He will deliver an important political speech before the UN General Assembly in New York on the UN's 50th anniversary.

Yemen's Vice President Meets Leaders

JN2010190595 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Brother Staff Major General 'Abd-Rabbuh Mansur Hadi, vice president and head of our country's delegation to the 11th Nonaligned summit, today received Iraqi Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf at his place of residence in Cartagena.

The brother vice president stressed the need to lift the embargo and put an end to the suffering of the Iraqi people.

The brother vice president then received brother 'Amr Musa, Egyptian foreign minister and head of his country's delegation to the Nonaligned summit. They reviewed relations between the two fraternal countries and efforts to hold a meeting of the Yemeni-Egyptian Joint Committee to activate its role in various areas.

The brother vice president also received brother 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Iranian foreign minister and head of the Iranian delegation to the conference. They exchanged views on issues of interest to the two fraternal countries, as well as cooperation in various areas. The Iranian foreign minister voiced his congratulations on Yemen's celebrations of the anniversary of the Yemeni revolution and on enhancing our country's unity. He also asserted that the two countries maintain profound relations for the benefit of both the Yemeni and Iranian peoples.

For his part, the brother vice president said that the Republic of Yemen and the Islamic Republic of Iran maintain close relations, stressing the need to promote joint cooperation between the two countries. He also reviewed spheres of joint investment, and said that Iranian capital may play a role in creating integration and bolstering cooperation among the Islamic countries.

Brother Maj. Gen. 'Abd-Rabbuh Mansur Hadi also met with Benazir Bhutto, Pakistani prime minister and head of her country's delegation to the Nonaligned summit.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

They reviewed cooperation between the two countries in the cultural and economic areas. She voiced her country's readiness to provide facilities for Yemeni students at Pakistani universities, to taking part in economic and industrial fields, and to encourage trade exchange between the two countries.

The Pakistani prime minister then asked that the vice president convey her greetings and best wishes to President Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, as well as her invitation to him to visit Pakistan.

For his part the brother vice president stressed the profound relations between the two fraternal countries, wishing Pakistan further development and progress. The meeting was attended by Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Ambassador 'Abdallah al-Shtal, our country's permanent representative at the United Nations.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Meets Leaders

JN2110165695 Baghdad Iraq Television Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Oct 95

[Announcer-read report]

[FBIS Translated Text] Vietnamese President Le Duc Anh yesterday received Iraqi Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf in Cartagena, Colombia. The Vietnamese president asked al-Sahhaf to convey his warm greetings to Leader President Saddam Husayn.

Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf also met with UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali. They discussed Iraq's ties with the UN Security Council and the Special Commission.

Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe also asked the foreign minister to convey his greetings and brotherly wishes to Leader President Saddam Husayn. During their meeting in Cartagena, the foreign minister briefed President Mugabe on Iraq's implementation of all UN Security Council resolutions, particularly Resolution 687.

Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf also met with Mali's Prime Minister Ibrahima Boubacar Keita. The foreign minister conveyed greetings from Leader President Saddam Husayn to Mali's President Konare and to the people of friendly Mali.

Further on Iraqi Minister's Meetings

JN2110194295 Baghdad Iraq Television Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Oct 95

[Announcer-read report]

[FBIS Translated Text] Vietnamese President Le Duc Anh yesterday received Iraqi Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf in Cartagena, Colombia. The Vietnamese president asked al-Sahhaf to convey his warm greetings to Leader President Saddam Husayn.

During the meeting, the foreign minister briefed the Vietnamese president on Iraq's relations with the UN Security Council and the Special Commission. They also discussed ties between the two friendly countries.

Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf also met with UN Secretary General Butrus Ghali. They discussed Iraq's ties with the UN Security Council and the Special Commission.

The foreign minister stressed that Iraq continues to cooperate objectively with the Special Commission so that the Commission can complete its work without any delay and so that the UN Security Council can implement its reciprocal obligations toward Iraq by implementing Paragraph 22 of Resolution 687.

Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe also asked the foreign minister to convey his greetings and brotherly wishes to Leader President Saddam Husayn. During their meeting in Cartagena, the foreign minister briefed President Mugabe on Iraq's implementation of all UN Security Council resolutions, particularly Resolution 687. He also briefed him on Iraq's policy within the Arab framework and its persistent effort to establish Arab solidarity on firm and clear bases.

President Mugabe expressed his admiration of Iraq's capability in the reconstruction sphere under Leader President Saddam Husayn. He said he is confident that Iraq can overcome the difficulties brought about by the embargo, which has been imposed against it for more than five years now.

Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf also met with Mali's Prime Minister Ibrahima Boubacar Keita. The foreign minister conveyed greetings from Leader President Saddam Husayn to Mali's President Konare and to the people of friendly Mali.

Mali's prime minister said President Konare and Mali's people and leadership believe that Leader President Saddam Husayn is the true leader who embodies courage, dignity, and wisdom in defending the dignity, independence, and interests of all developing countries. Therefore, he said, Mali's people and leadership hold deep feelings of love toward Leader Saddam Husayn and will continue to support the steadfast and courageous Iraq, which sets an example for all oppressed people of the South.

The foreign minister also met with Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed. They discussed the ties of cooperation between Iraq and Malaysia. They also discussed Iraq's relations with the Special Commission and the means to foil the United States' schemes aiming

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

at delaying the Special Commission from completing its mission. Mahathir Mohamed also underlined Malaysia's position which calls for an end to the Iraq embargo. He also underlined his country's desire to establish ties of constant cooperation with Iraq.

Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf also discussed with Thailand's Deputy Prime Minister Amnuai Wirawan the prospect for cooperation between Iraq and Thailand now and in the future. Thailand's deputy prime minister said his country is keen on preserving and expanding the prospects for cooperation with Iraq.

Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf discussed with his Tunisian counterpart, Habib Ben Yahia, the ties of cooperation between the two sisterly countries and the prospect for action to strengthen and to develop the efforts seeking to cleanse the Arab atmosphere. The Tunisian foreign minister underlined solidarity with Iraq and the need to act to end the unfair embargo imposed against it.

The foreign minister also met with Sudanese Foreign Minister 'Ali 'Uthman Muhammad Taha. The two ministers discussed the strong ties between the two sisterly countries. They also exchanged viewpoints on the Nonaligned Movement's role against the backdrop of the movement's 11th summit.

Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf also held talks with South Africa's Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo. The talks focused on ties between Iraq and South Africa. They also exchanged views on the means to strengthen the Nonaligned Movement's role.

Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf also met with his Venezuelan counterpart, Angel Burelli Rivas. They discussed bilateral ties, particularly in the sphere of oil and joint action inside OPEC.

Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf also met in Cartagena with Yemeni Vice President 'Abd-Rabbuh Mansur Hadi on the fringes of the Nonaligned Movement's 11th summit. They discussed brotherly ties between the two sisterly countries and the means to develop them. 'Abd-Rabbuh reaffirmed his country's call to end the Iraq embargo and put an end to the Iraqi people's suffering.

Bhutto Meets With Velayati

BK2010150895 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Prime Minister Ms. Benazir Bhutto left Cartagena, Colombia today for New York to participate in the 50th anniversary celebrations of the United Nations. In Cartagena, she participated in the 11th summit conference of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM]. [passage omitted]

Besides attending the NAM summit, the prime minister had a meeting with the Colombian president and exchanged views with several heads of delegation on matters of mutual interest.

During her meeting with the Iranian foreign minister, who called on her, the two leaders had a comprehensive exchange of views on the prevailing situation in Afghanistan. The prime minister told Dr. Velayati that Pakistan wanted a durable settlement of the Afghan problem and was exercising complete neutrality in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. The Iranian foreign minister expressed his country's concern over the attack on the Pakistan Embassy in Kabul and regretted that sanctity of a foreign mission was breached. Later, the two sides reiterated that they wanted restoration of peace in Afghanistan and were opposed to any foreign interference in that country.

Bhutto: NAM Should Accept Views

BK2110102195 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 0500 GMT 21 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Nonaligned Movement [NAM] summit conference, which has ended in the Colombian city of Cartagena, has called upon the United Nations Security Council to implement all its resolutions, including one concerning the right of self-determination to the Kashmiri people. A declaration adopted by the summit conference also calls for extending support to the peoples struggling for freedom from foreign occupation. The declaration also underlined the distinction between human rights and terrorism. Leaders of the movement have pledged to work for the establishment of a just international order by upholding principles of sovereignty of states, peaceful settlement of regional conflicts and achievement of development goals. The declaration stresses the need for democratization of the United Nations on the principles of sovereign equality of all the member states. It also calls for creating new nuclear weapon-free zones in region where it does not exist, including South Asia.

Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto arrived in New York last night to attend the 50th anniversary celebrations of the United Nations. She will address the UN General assembly on Tuesday, the day the UN organization was established 50 years ago. Before that, the prime minister will have busy schedule of meetings with world leaders, including presidents of Turkey, Bosnia, China, Azerbaijan, Maldives and Uganda.

Talking to journalists aboard the plane during the flight from Cartagena to New York, the prime minister described the NAM deliberations as very successful. She said as the NAM declaration testifies, the NAM

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

summit accepted Pakistan's viewpoint, especially on people's struggle for the right of self-determination and the spread of nuclear weapons. She said a large number of countries now hold the view that even the concept of nuclear-free zones was acceptable as it helps in stopping the nuclear arms race on a regional basis.

Condemnation of Terrorism Noted

BK2110100095 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 21 Oct 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Cartagena NAM [Nonaligned Movement] declaration has condemned all terrorist activities whatever their cause. In what is seen as a strong rebuttal of the moral and diplomatic support of Pakistan to the Kashmiri militants, NAM also condemned all kinds of political, moral and material support to terrorism, particularly from across the border. The declaration endorses the need for an early conclusion and implementation of a comprehensive international convention against terrorism.

Another summit document, Call From Cartagena, ignored Pakistan's plea for creating a mechanism within the movement to settle bilateral disputes among its members, which was an obvious attempt by Pakistan to internationalize the Kashmir issue. Our correspondent Benudhar Teddy adds that NAM also dropped a proposal by Pakistan to declare South Asia a nuclear-free zone.

The external affairs minister, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, talking to newsmen on board the aircraft on his way to New York, also said that any expansion of the Security Council without giving representation to the developing countries is not acceptable to NAM.

Ramos Calls For NAM UN Representation

BK2010134595 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 2230 GMT 19 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President Ramos calls on the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] to push for representation in the United Nations Security Council. In his speech before over a hundred leaders of developing nations — which are members of the Non-Aligned Movement — in Cartagena, the president said that it is time for the developing nations to have a voice in the United Nations Security Council. The president also called on NAM to support the Philippines in its quest for a peaceful resolution of the issue concerning the competing claims to the Spratlys islands.

[Begin Ramos recording, in English] For us in Southeast Asia, closest to home is the dispute over the islets in the South China Sea, which threatens to disrupt our region's economic growth. We believe it vital for all countries to continue supporting the 1992 ASEAN Declaration on the South China Sea, which stresses that all sovereignty and jurisdictional issues there should be resolved without resort to force.

Mr. Chairman, on the South China Sea issue, we depend on the Nonaligned Movement's continuing support. [end recording]

NAM Supports Spratlys Resolution

BK2010120195 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0945 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Nonaligned Movement [NAM] has supported the 1992 Manila Declaration. The declaration, which will be presented by President Ramos, aims to resolve the Spratlys issue peacefully.

From Colombia, the president left for Boston in preparation for his attendance at the anniversary of the United Nations.

Singapore's Jayakumar Addresses Summit

BK2110085195 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 20 Oct 95 p 3

[Report by Edward Tang]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Nonaligned Movement (NAM) must agree on a clear blueprint for action and focus on economic issues if it wants to remain relevant in the future, Foreign Minister Professor S. Jayakumar said yesterday.

"If NAM wants to be a force in the next century, it must contribute to the economic development of its members. It must help developing countries take part in the new economic game," he said in his address to the 11th Non-Aligned Movement Summit in Cartagena, Colombia.

Arguing that the shift to economic issues was not only inevitable but also necessary he said that social and economic development would provide the foundation for peace and stability in the longer term.

Earlier in his speech, he had praised the leadership of President Suharto for Indonesia's chairing of the movement in the past three years.

"Under his wise and able leadership, the Non-Aligned Movement made important strides... Indonesia had not only given the movement a new impetus, but also a clear focus on economic cooperation and development issues," he said of Mr. Suharto.

He called on the Cartagena summit to build on the foundations of the Jakarta summit in order to revitalise the movement.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

He identified the following areas where NAM could play a useful role in promoting economic cooperation:

— Engage the developed countries in a "constructive and non- confrontational manner".

— Intensify South-South cooperation, and

— Play a pro-active role in economic issues at the United Nations.

Emphasising that economic growth was not a zero-sum game, Prof. Jayakumar urged the developing countries to work with the developed countries to seek mutual gains.

The dialogue between developed and developing countries should be practical and productive and it should not be an exercise in rhetoric and ideology, he said.

On South-South cooperation, he said that NAM could provide the political framework for economic and technical cooperation among developing countries, as he noted that there was no shortage of experience and expertise within the South, a term used to refer to developing countries.

On NAM's role in the UN, he said that the movement was the collective voice of developing nations and could influence and shape global economic agenda of the world body.

He stressed that the movement must "speak with one voice" where there is common position among members but must also have the courage to acknowledge differences within the movement.

"A diversity of views is not unhealthy in a large movement like NAM. It can be a source of strength," he said.

On the UN, he said that the fundamental cause is the failure of some "major contributors" to pay their dues in full and on time.

India's Rao Addresses Summit

BK2010134795 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1600 GMT 19 Oct 95

[Address by Indian Prime Minister Narsimha Rao's to the Nonaligned Summit in Cartagena, Colombia on 19 October — recorded]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mr. Chairman, excellencies, ladies and gentlemen! I join my distinguished colleagues in congratulating you, Mr. President, and the people of Colombia on your assuming the chairmanship of the Nonaligned Movement.

About two decades ago, we had met in Latin America. We return to this continent at a crucial juncture in global affairs, and it is only fitting that a country like Colombia, the land of creativity as it is described by Noble Laureate Gabriel Garcia Marques and whose active role in world affairs is well-known, is our friendly and hospitable host. I would like to pay tribute to President Suharto of Indonesia for his wise leadership of the movement in the last three years. His vast experience and sagacity have added immeasurably to our movement's activities. I join my colleagues also in extending a warm welcome to the new members of the movement.

This 11th summit of our movement, which seats 113 member nations apart from numerous observers and guests representing almost every creed and culture, race and religion, is in many ways far more impressive than the first summit in 1961 at Belgrade where only 25 countries assembled. Yet, the spirit which was found in those great 25 for the first time marked a bold departure from the running [word indistinct]. It proved so compellingly valid that almost every infant nation, the minute it became independent, found the movement safe as a cradle and entered it. This has been the history of the movement.

In India, the concept of nonalignment traces its origins back to antiquity, but the modern version was elaborated in the thoughts and words of pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, one of the founding fathers of the movement. His doctrine was very simple. He said: "In world affairs generally, we should stand for everything that promotes peace and avoids war, and everything that puts an end to any imperialist domination of one country over another. At the same time, we should work for close cooperation between nations with a view to ultimately helping in the establishment of strong world order."

I am sure we have by now come out of the skeptical rhetoric which questioned the relevance and need of nonalignment after the end of the Cold War. The Cold War had been so compulsive that many forgot the rationale of the origin of the Nonaligned Movement and understood it only as an exercise in acrobatics between the two overwhelming blocs. The permanent principles of peace, struggle against domination, cooperation between nations, and the establishment of a world order more or less took a back seat. However, the nature of this new world would suggest it is a factor that nonalignment has a great relevance as a countervailing concept. We all believe in it and its utility for the world. There is not one factor in the old set up which has abated in any way so as to reduce the role of the Nonaligned Movement ever so little. The developed countries are also undergoing a transformation brought about by the dynamics of globalization, but there are differences. It is in the developed countries that the technologies have developed,

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

institutions have responded gradually to the challenge of change and the new rules are being tested and finalized through consultations between governments of the new (?actors). Unlike the NAM countries, the developed countries are not leaping across time zones and technology dimensions, but managing change on their own terms. This is a real shift which NAM countries will need to accept as they become integrated into global social and economic networks. The challenge for us is to ensure that the process is not destabilizing. The managed transition should not become explosive and cause a breakdown in the structures that sustain nation states. For this, we need to engage in a debate on these issues to ensure that in multilateral forums, our common interests are protected even as we come to terms with the dynamics of globalization.

Another issue which gets increasingly stark is the menace of the arms race. In strategic doctrines revised after the end of the Cold War, the nuclear weapon states continue to insist on retaining these weapons. True, under bilateral agreements they have agreed to come down to a capacity of destroying the world just 3,000 times over from the present capacity of 30,000 times over. Surely, they cannot be serious when they claim this as disarmament. I would like to take some solace from recent statistics published by the U.S. Arms Control and Disasrmament Agency, which reveals that defense expenditure of the majority of countries declined from estimated $1,360 billion in 1987, as measured in constant 1993 dollars, to an estimated $868 billion in 1993. An analysis of this expenditure reveals that there are areas of concern in every continent. India's share of defense expenditure among 37 Asian countries came down from 5.24 percent in 1988 to 3.14 percent in 1994. Actual reductions in defense expenditure, even after accounting for inflation, by India and several countries aiming for a more peaceful environment have been outmatched by fairly steep yet completely inexplicable increases in defense budgets of some other countries. In the ultimate analysis, all these factors merit reckoning. Mr. Chairman! We must, therefore, insist on the complete elimination of nuclear weapons and that the current [word indistinct] processes serve this objective.

In 1988, India put forward an action plan for a nuclear weapon free and nonviolent world to be reached in predetermined practicable stages along with a parallel quest for security through cooperation and consensus. That document afers: "Peace must be predicated on a basis other than the assurance of global destruction. We need a world order based on nonviolence and peaceful coexistence. We need international institutions that will nurture such a world order." This I submit is a logical progression toward a positive goal. I feel the Nonaligned Movement must adopt and work for this plan. Mr. Chairman! I believe there is an even greater urgency today to strive for a nuclear weapon-free world. I call upon all nations through this forum to convene another special session on disarmament.

Just six months ago, a handful of nations perpetuated their monopoly over the means of mutually assured destruction by the indefinite extension of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Without even obtaining an expression of intent it virtually abolished all nuclear weapons as envisaged in that same treaty. The next step, which is already in progress is the negotiation of a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and the convention for the cutoff of fissile materials for weapons purposes. While the aims of both these treaties are laudable and we support them wholeheartedly, we must ensure that we do not lose yet another opportunity to obtain a commitment to universal and comprehensive nuclear disarmament. If such a commitment is not forthcoming, what are we to make of a status quo in which a few hold on to their awesome arsenals and keep them running by sophisticated computer simulation techniques, while they want all others to merely watch with empty hands. Is this permanently possible? Thus regrettably, a few months have seen the negation of all that the Nonaligned Movement has stood for on this life and death subject and articulated unequivocally for decades.

Mr. Chairman! It would also be useful to dwell upon the spread of small arms and light weapons which has been largely responsible for sustaining terrorist movements and most of the ethnic conflicts we see today. We are referring to weapons as lethal as land mines, [word indistinct] explosives which have in many — in my own mine country — have killed dozens in a single blast; shoulder-fired surface-to-air missiles, and of course the ubiquitous and well-known assault rifles like the Kalashnikovs, 55 million of which are believed to have been sold in the open market so far. Through consultation and cooperation, we need to introduce greater transparency and accountability in the manufacture and transfer of such weapons. We need to harmonize our national policies, including border surveillance, gun control legislation and effective measures against illegal possessions and trafficking in such deadly instruments. These and similar well thought out measures will enable us to prevent proxy wars across borders and the exacerbation of ethnic conflicts that have become the bane of most pluralistic states. I urge, Mr. chairman, that we must resolutely stamp out the scourge of terrorism everywhere in every manner.

Mr. Chairman! I regret to note that the prime minister of Pakistan has against the convention of our meetings

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

brought up a bilateral issue at this summit. The attempt is all the more inappropriate for its distortion of fact. The accession of Jammu and Kashmir to the Indian Union is an established fact in international law. Dispute of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. [preceding sentence as heard] The Pakistani prime minister's allusions to self-determination is entirely inapplicable in this context. The illegal occupation over a part of the state by Pakistan has to be vacated, other than this there is no dispute. The sufferings of the people of Jammu and Kashmir originate from outside support for terrorist degradations in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. It is my government's determination to ensure that the lives of innocent Indian citizens in Kashmir shall not be allowed to be threatened by these activities.

The nonaligned countries, Mr. Chairman, can no doubt themselves do a lot toward addressing their present situation. Self-help and self-reliance are concepts vital to the building up of a prosperous society. However, we have not sufficiently explored what we can do amongst ourselves, even though our capabilities have increased considerably lately. We must get away from the psychology of helplessness at once. The long-term economic and social progress of a nation will be secure only where the development process is rooted in the soil and firmly anchored in the inherent qualities of its people. However, the international community has an invaluable catalyst role to play in this process. Maintaining the freedom of (?trade) and the free flow of ideas, investment, and technologies across national boundaries is of prime importance. It is ironic that even as developing countries seek to liberalize their economies and join in the global mainstream, new protectionist restrictions under different guises are being imposed to deprive them of their meager advantages. It is crystal clear that these restrictions are squarely based on the profit motive of the rich countries garbed in various principles such as environment, child labor et cetera that seem to have sprung up in a manner that makes them tailor-made tools of protectionism.

The international community is deeply bound to maintain an environment which enables developing countries to realize their potential for self-advancement. In order to achieve these goals, I believe that interaction with the developed world is necessary, but so far the experience seems to have petered out in the belief in the developed countries that every such dialogue leads to a demand for money from them. The fact of interdependence which we are harping on all the time is all but lost on the developed world. This reality must be faced squarely. There must be, I am sure, some [words indistinct] younger generations in the developed countries, but what is at stake in any North-South interaction is their future too along with that of the youths of the whole world. Some sort of (?discipline), Mr. Chairman, seems to a must in the Nonaligned Movement (?to cope with) the generational hiatus in mutual comprehension. As of today, market-based pragmatism is on the ascendance. Some believe that this is a permanent panacea. The market has its own mechanism to reward creativity, efficiency, diligence, and enterprise. Yet, the concept of panacea generally develops its own viruses in course of time. We, in India, have deliberated on this and accepted what we call the market-plus approach. In our view, market forces tempered with, indeed reinforced, by a comittment to social justice foster the most stable and permanent growth and a prosperous as well as humane society.

The (?South) side [word indistinct] of practical South-South cooperation, India has so far concluded general bilateral agreements for cooperation in science and technology with 44 countries, of which 34 belong to the NAM. India's Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has separately concluded 31 bilateral scientific agreements with sister agencies of 31 countries of which 21 belong to the NAM. Similarly, bilateral agreements for cooperation in atomic energy has been concluded with 19 countries of which 10 are NAM members. We need to increase such cooperation so that the talent available within NAM can be used more for our own benefit. The Indian Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has commenced a patent profile portfolio management scheme whereby indigenous inventions will be safeguarded and revenues realized from strategic international alliances will maximize the results from our investments in education and scientific research. This is but one example of how we can stand on our feet and not keep looking for handouts.

We welcome change. But in the lives of nations as in our own lives, change must be at a pace that keeps you ahead with minimum trauma, but there will be some trauma in every shake-up. The threshold of endurance from assimilation may vary from society to society. The management of change is what determines the result. The world is still trying to figure out the implications of Somalia, Rwanda, and Bosnia; still trying to fathom what triggered such violence. We must, therefore, realize that if these became the rule rather than the exception, the world will not survive. We must be allowed the time to evolve as the developed countries have evolved. Alien and [word indistinct] systems cannot be transplanted on the developing societies and economies all at once. Particularly, when the modern circles are themselves far from perfect and are on the verge of an overhaul, new isms are in real need of an overhaul. It will not be exaggeration to say that

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

mankind as a whole is in need of a brand new models for a peaceful, positive, coexistential, and comprehensive future.

Mr Chairman! In a few days from now we will celebrate 50 years of the United Nations. While there is much to commend, we cannot be unmindful of the issues that are still the center of diplomatic debate concerning this institution. Indeed, Nonaligned Movement is a force for truth and equity, the United Nations could be the agency to implement the truth and equity. The [word indistinct] of which is a nexus between us and the United Nations, and we should emphasize the implementation of this relationship unitedly and without fear or favor. We are all aware of the fundamental questions that the discussions in the open-ended working group have raised and I need not reiterate them. I would urge here that we transcend our differences within this movement and try to crystallize our stance on the core question of the need for a more representative Security Council both in the geographical and the socioeconomic sense. Developing countries should receive consideration and we believe that such a step will contribute to the recognition of the principles and priorities of the developing world thus enabling the United Nations to take a comprehensive and balanced view in world affairs.

Mr. Chairman! As we approach the end of this momentous century, everyone of us must assess the extent of statesmanship we have brought to bear to our task. The art of statesmanship does not lie in merely reproducing for our citizens the reality that is created by circumstances or society. We need also to invent a better reality for our peoples. I am confident that all of us here will continue to work for a better reality and a brighter future which will be proclaimed as the appeals from Colombia. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. [applause]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

IDB President: No Aid to Cuba Without Democratization

PY2010022295 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2112 GMT 19 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Montevideo, 19 Oct (TELAM) — Inter-American Development Bank [IDB] President Enrique Iglesias declared today that unless Fidel Castro's regime introduces reforms to democratize the island, the IDB will not give financial aid to Cuba.

Iglesias, who opened a conference on justice and development in Montevideo today, acknowledged that Cuba "is a very important country in the Latin American community." He urged Castro to send political signals that he will engage in "a democratization drive" so that the IDB may cooperate in this process.

Iglesias stated: "If Cuba manages to overcome all the political problems which we all know about, I believe that it will be accepted as an IDB member and that it will take an active part in this organization."

The IDB president went on to say that "for the time being, we find it impossible to conduct business with the Cuban Government on account of the political context surrounding it. Moreover, Cuba is not even a member of the IDB."

Iglesias recalled that Cuba had failed to ratify its adhesion to the IDB since 1959, when Castro seized power after having overthrown Fulgencio Batista's government.

In concluding, Iglesias said: "I am sure that if strides are made in opening up Cuba from a political standpoint, the island will join the IDB and will be able to count on our financial aid."

Officials Discuss Traffic of Illegal Migrants

PA2210003895 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1834 GMT 19 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Panama City, 19 Oct (ACAN-EFE) — Approximately 100 officials from Central America, the United States, Canada, Ecuador, Mexico, and the Dominican Republic are meeting in Panama today to study ways to stop the traffic of illegal migrants to the United States.

Panamanian Government and Justice Minister Raul Montenegro inaugurated the two-day meeting in Panama City today. In his inaugural speech he noted that there is no way to stop such migrations because they are historical, economic, and sociological in nature. However, Montenegro added, it is possible to adopt measures to get this migratory movement to occur in the most orderly way possible. The minister underscored that migrations are usually a product of economic and social deficiencies which, when they get worse, do not allow a country to offer solutions to the population's most pressing problems.

Minister Montenegro added that illegal migrations is a problem which, apparently, is on the increase and is being furthered by organized criminal bands that "drag poor people into an international maelstrom." He said he favored laws that will allow authorities to stop the traffic of migrants, punish the people responsible for the trafficking, and protect the victims. Montenegro added that each country will present its migration situation and later, they will try to find ways to minimize the migration of illegals from Central America to the United States.

Panamanian Immigration Director German Gil Sanchez stated that they are going to request that the countries present all their questions regarding migratory movements and, in addition, will attempt to find out how the networks of criminal bands, which get rich with the trafficking of human beings, operate. "We are going to assess the wave of illegal immigrants and the people who are in this business because we know there are people in the United States who receive those immigrants. There would not be such an enormous demand for illegal immigrants if this were not so," he underscored.

The meeting, which is sponsored by the International Migration Organization (OIM,) has the support of the Panamanian foreign and government ministries. Officials from the Customs Office, Passport Directorate, Labor Office, Attorney General's Office, and the National Police are also participating in the event.

The delegates who attend this two-day meeting in Panama City will review the conclusions reached at the regional migration meeting held in Managua (Nicaragua) on 9 October. At the Managua meeting, the Central American migration directors asked the United States to give them technical and financial assistance to stop the illegal traffic of foreigner in the isthmus. None of the migration officials in this region gave figures on the amount of undocumented individuals who use Central America as a "springboard" to get to North American territory to attempt to improve their economic earnings.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Cuba

Reportage on Fidel Castro's Visit to New York

Castro Arrives for UN Anniversary

PA2210032995 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Oct 95

[From the "Evening Information Review" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Cuban President Fidel Castro arrived Saturday in New York City to participate in the celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the United Nations. Castro, who arrived from Havana, is included in Sunday's list of speakers. This is Castro's fourth visit to the United States since the victory of the revolution in January 1959. That same year, Castro visited the United States at the invitation of the American Press Association. In 1960, he headed the Cuban delegation to the 16th regular sessions of the UN's General Assembly, and in 1979, he represented the Nonaligned Movement, which he then presided, at the United Nations. During his stay in New York, Castro will follow a tight agenda that includes about 200 invitations by U.S. personalities and organizations. About the time of Castro's arrival, thousands of people braved a torrential rain and strong winds and marched through that city with dozens of Cuban flags and chanting Cuba yes, blockade no.

'Pleased' With Visit to New York

PA2210140295 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 1300 GMT 22 Oct 95

[From the "Morning Information Review" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Cuban President Fidel Castro has said he is pleased with his stay in New York where today he will participate as the first Latin American speaker in the inaugural session of the world summit on the 50th Anniversary of the United Nations.

The Cuban revolutionary leader met with U.S. businessmen and other personalities as well as with Cubans living in New York. In brief statements made to the Cuban media at the Cuban mission to the United Nations, Fidel told his interviewers it was a happy start because of the spirit that prevailed. He ruled out any type of relationship between his presence in New York and ties between Havana and Washington, but recognized the influence exerted by the United Nations, which has always voted against the blockade imposed by the United States on the island.

In this regard, the Cuban president noted the weight of the recent Ibero-American Summit and the Nonaligned Movement countries, which reached final agreements favorable for Cuba.

Castro added that the complicated situation prevailing in the United States, notably the situation of controversy between the executive and legislative branches, exercises an influence on the bilateral dialogue with Havana.

He said there is an extreme rightist group with inconceivable, absurd positions that are part of an internal U.S. current with brutal intentions against Cuba.

The amount of time granted to President Fidel Castro to remain in U.S. territory comes in contrast to the numerous invitations he has received from political and economic circles.

Addresses UN General Assembly

PA2210191895 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Oct 95

["Full text" of speech by President Fidel Castro before the UN General Assembly at UN Headquarters in New York on 22 October: "Fidel Castro Demands End of U.S. Blockade Before the United Nations" — first five paragraphs are PRENSA LATINA introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] United Nations, 22 Oct (PL) — Cuban President Fidel Castro demanded here today an end to the U.S. blockade against the island that, he said, is killing men, women, and children, youths and elders "like silent atomic bombs."

Fidel Castro spoke only minutes before more than 140 heads of state and government of the entire world, including U.S. President William Clinton, who are attending a special meeting to mark the 50th anniversary of the United Nations here.

In a tight summary of the enormous difficulties facing humanity today, especially the poorest countries, the Cuban leader also demanded the democratization of the United Nations and elimination of the Security Councils veto right.

"We want a world of peace, justice, and dignity in which everyone without exception can enjoy the right to well-being and life," Fidel Castro said, in one of the most applauded speeches of the initial part of the grand meeting.

PRENSA LATINA will now provide the full text of his speech:

Mr. President, Mr. Secretary General, Excellencies: The United Nations was founded half a century ago after a monstrous war that claimed the lives of an average 10 million each year during the most intense times. Today, 20 million men, women, and children die each year of hunger and of curable diseases. Some rich peoples have

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

life expectancies of up to 80 years; others hardly reach 40. Part of the life of thousands of millions is cut short.

How long must we wait for this slaughter to end? The Cold War ended but the arms race continues, and military and nuclear hegemony is perpetuated. How long must we wait for a complete ban on all weapons of mass extermination, for univeral disarmament, for the elimination of the use of force, arrogance, and pressure in international relations?

The anachronistic privilege of veto and the abusive use of the Security Council by the powerful are enthroning a new colonialism within the United Nations itself. Latin America and Africa do not have even one permanent member in the Security Council.

India, in Asia, with nearly 1 billion inhabitants does not have this responsibility. How long will we have to wait to see the democratization of the United Nations, the independence, and sovereign equality of states, nonintervention in their internal affairs, and true international cooperation become realities?

Science and technology are making huge strides every day, but their benefits do not reach the large majorities. Science and technology remain at the service of an irrational consumerism that squanders limited resources and seriously threatens life on the planet. How long must we wait for there to be rationality, equality, and justice on the planet?

The amount of forests in the world decreases, the air is polluted, and rivers are contaminated. Numerous amounts of plant and animal life are extinguished. Soil is impoverished. New and old epidemics spread while the population grows, multiplying the legions of have-nots.

Will the upcoming generations reach the land that was promised to them a half a century ago? How many hundreds of millions of people have already died without being able to see it? How many victims of repression, looting, and of the blockade, hunger, and unhealthy conditions can we count? How many more will have to fall?

We want a world without hegemonistic practices, without nuclear weapons, without interventionism, without racism, without national or religious hatred, without violations of the sovereignty of any country, with respect for independence and the free self-determination of peoples, without universal models that do not take into account the traditions and cultures of all components of humanity at all, without cruel blockades that kill men, women, children, the young, and the elderly like silent atomic bombs.

We want a world of peace, justice, and dignity in which everyone without exception can enjoy the right to well-being and life. Thank you very much.

Meets Emigres, Journalists

PA2310040195 Havana Cuba Vision Network in Spanish 1900 GMT 22 Oct 95

["Special report" by Irma Caceres and Omar de la Cruz on President Fidel Castro meeting with unidentified Cuban exiles and journalists at the Cuban Mission at the United Nations on 22 October]

[FBIS Translated Text] [in progress] ...arrived at the Cuban Mission at the United Nations to, once again, recall the past and talk about the present.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified female emigre] [words indistinct] I told Robaina that I did not want to die without first meeting Fidel.

[Castro] Neither you nor I are going to die. [laughter and applause] Are you a Cuban born here or...

[Female emigre, interrupting] Yes, I was born here but I always say that I am Cuban.

[Castro] You know what? You are exactly like the Cuban women back home. [laughter]

[Unidentified male] Comandante, in 1960 you came to the UN...

[Castro, interrupting] In 1959, also. No, to be exact, in 1960 I came to the UN where I delivered quite a long speech.

[Unidentified male] [words indistinct]

[Castro] With that address I broke all the records and I believe no one has been able to break it. [laughter]

[Unidentified male] Some observers say that in 1969 your [words indistinct]

[Castro] Yes, there were many interesting problems.

[Unidentified journalist] Comandante...

[Castro, interrupting] But the best will be tomorrow because it will last only five minutes.

[Reporter] Comandante, with respect to the democratization of the UN and the reforms you mentioned, what can you say about this?

[Castro] Well, there is a report by a news agency which I read today that says that several speakers at the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] summit addressed the same issue. I was there during the first day, on the second I had to make arrangements for the trip here.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

According to the news agency reports that I have read, the majority of the Nonaligned members support even though there is no agreement on how these reforms should take place. There are some contradictions, but the important point is that the United Nations has to be reformed. However, what is not clear yet is how it is going to be carried out.

[Reporters] [words indistinct]

[Castro] Yes, yes.

[Reporter] Comandante, how would you describe your address to the United Nations?

[Castro] Brief. [laughter]

[Reporter] The 50 years of the United Nations...

[Castro, interrupting] [words indistinct]... never, never. Over in Bariloche I had to cut my speech into small bits in order to avoid a problem with the television. [words indistinct]

[Reporter] Yet it is said that what you said at the NAM summit was just a preview of what you might say here.

[Castro] Well, my belief is that there is a statement for every place. My three and a half minute speech in Bariloche, seven minutes [words indistinct]. One speaker even spoke for 22 minutes. Most of the speakers paid no attention to time limit established. On the other hand, in a reflection of discipline which I do not regret, stuck to the seven-minute time limit and was able to deliver the basic ideas. It is true that I had to cut, and eliminate [word indistinct] because we had to time limit which observed, and I would do the same once again. Yet some of the other speakers were not even interested in cutting their speeches. That was a real problem since there were more than 100 people scheduled to speak.

[Reporter] Comandante, there is much speculation about your visit to the UN and that, considering the current circumstances, it could be interpreted in another way as relates to Cuba-U.S. relations.

[Castro] No, no. There is no reason for this since one has nothing to do with the other. I was simply extended a minor visitors permit up until the 25th and limited to [words indistinct]. [laughter].

[Reporter] What is your opinion about that?

[Castro] I believe it was somewhat petty. [Laughter] [words indistinct]

[Reporter] Are you aware that several journalists...

[Other reporter, interrupting] Could the United Nations mediate in the dispute between the United States and Cuba?

[Castro] Well, it is having some influence from the moment it votes, although you may believe otherwise, just as Bariloche has exerted some type of influence. The thing is that the NAM [words indistinct]. The problem is that in this situation things are a bit more complicated. Here we have a bit of a disagreement between the executive and legislative branches that would seem to be diametrically opposed. That would seem to be [words indistinct]. There is an extreme right group [words indistinct]. There seem to be no common sense from them, and the things they aim to do are just incredible. At any rate Cuba intends to resist.

[Reporter] How was your meeting last night?

[Castro] Very good. I met with a family [words indistinct], several businessmen, and some noteworthy persons. There were not too many people a the meeting, and it was quite enjoyable [words indistinct].

[Reporter] A good beginning for Cuba?

[Castro] A cheerful beginning. Starting with the mood during the meeting, the freshness prevalent, and the family atmosphere. [Passage indistinct] It was quite enjoyable, interesting, instructive [words indistinct].

[Reporter] [words indistinct]

[Castro] I am not aware of how it will be. We are going to have all sorts of public here. We will be having meetings with the media, U.S. press, television, and I imagine that reporters are going to be all over the place. [passage indistinct]. You must keep in mind that there are some people who represent a threat to the [word indistinct], who try to impose themselves, pressure, insult, offend, and attack anyone who comes into contact with us. They want to establish a reign of psychological terror here. They wanted to tell those more than 4,000 people meeting under the rain...

[Reporter, interrupting] You must mean under a storm?

[Castro] Were you there?

[Reporter] Most of the day [words indistinct]

[Castro] Were you allowed?

[Reporter] [words indistinct]

[Castro] Then the mayor must be quite pleased since you seem to have saved the city a considerable amount of money.

[Reporter] Comandante, are you not offended on account of the Cuban delegation not being invited to the official lunch being hosted by...

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Castro] No, in a certain way it is Bill Clinton's right and prerogative, and he is the one who loses, not I. [laughter and applause]

[Reporter] There is no reason why you should pay any attention to that issue.

[Castro] I will be in good company tomorrow [words indistinct].

[Reporter] [question indistinct]

[Castro] I believe the mayor does not want me to even drink a Coca Cola which does not bother me one bit. I am quite content to be here with you. Can there be anything more enjoyable?

[Unidentified woman emigre] Comandante, you are well known throughout the world, yet the mayor is only known here in this city.

[Castro] How is that?

[Woman emigre] You are well known throughout the world, but the mayor is only known here.

[Castro] He does not even want me to go the symphony. The symphony is playing at the United Nations, but since it seems to belong to the city, the mayor is objecting. I do not want any problems [words indistinct]. I came in peace. I came in peace and I do not want to give headaches to anyone, lest the city runs out of aspirins. [laughter and applause]

[Reporter] Thank you very much, Comandante. [end recording]

Interviewed by CNN Journalist

PA2310045495 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 23 Oct 95

[Interview with President Fidel Castro by CNN journalist Bernard Shaw in the CNN studio in New York; from the "NTV" newscast — recorded; Shaw speaks in English with passage-by-passage translation into Spanish]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Shaw] Mr. President, thank for being with us this afternoon.

[Castro] Thank you, it is a pleasure.

[Shaw] And for us too. Exactly 33 years ago to the day, President Kennedy announced on nationwide television and to the world that Soviet offensive missiles had been installed in your country. These two nuclear powers were on the brink of war. The missiles were later withdrawn. Do you believe that relations with the United States would have been different had you not allowed the missiles in Cuba?

[Castro] No, because the missiles were a consequence of the poor relations. The missile crisis marked the start of detente between the United States and the Soviet Union. Thus, the international political atmosphere improved.

[Shaw] When writing his autobiography, Retired General Colin Powell quotes from a conversation held with Soviet diplomat (Anatoli Dobrini), in which (Dobrini) told Powell: You, the Americans, pushed Fidel into our arms. My question is: do you believe that the Americans truly pushed you or did you walk toward the Soviets?

[Castro] Things were not really that way. We were not pushed. Problems arose, the [Playa] Giron invasion, ulterior plans regarding Cuba, the dangers of a direct invasion with conventional weapons. The elements that determined the possibilities of installing those missiles were influenced by factors... [pauses] I remember... [pauses] We were informed of a conversation between Kennedy and Khrushchev — in Austria, I believe — in which Kennedy spoke in terms that caused Khrushchev much unrest. We were informed of this conversation and sincerely, there was Soviet concern because they had pledged Cuba much support. Something of mutual convenience then arose: for us to have what nowadays is called a nuclear umbrella. For the Soviets, to my way of thinking, and as seen after all this time, it meant improving their correlation of strategic forces with the United States. Under these circumstances a visit to Cuba by a Soviet delegation took place, presided by (Ratchinov), who was party secretary in Uzbekistan and an agriculture expert, it was said, because he developed cotton over there in the steppe. He came with the head of Soviet rocket science. When speaking about the risks Cuba was taking, he asked me what could they do — just in those words. I replied that the only thing that could serve as practically a total guarantee against a U.S. invasion was for the United States to be made to realize that an invasion to Cuba would mean war with the Soviet Union. On more than one occasion the United States had said the invasion of any ally would be cause for a war. The Soviets replied by asking how could we make this guarantee? At that moment they said that a firm step was needed and proposed the installation of the missiles. On the other hand, we immediately understood that if we had an advantage, so would they. We then told them to wait, to please let us think about it. We gathered all the revolution's top leadership, we analyzed the matter, we included a moral element — whether we want the Soviets to fight for us if we are attacked — our moral duty is to run a risk in the interest of Soviet security. We then gave our reply — we told them yes, that we were willing to receive the missiles. This is exactly how I remember things happened. Then came all the story afterward. I can reply to any other question you may have on this.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Shaw] I noticed you smiled when I mentioned Colin Powell's name. Would you like to see Gen. Powell as a U.S. president?

[Castro] [words indistinct] Gen. Powell and (Dobriniv) and you said that we had been pushed. I disagree with that point of view because events took place, as I explained to you, and it shows that both Colin Powell and I have a good memory on historic events. He remembers what he spoke with (Dobriniv) and I remember what the Soviets spoke with us about.

[Shaw] No, to be clear, what I said was that in Gen. Powell's book he said that Ambassador (Dobriniv) had told him...

[Castro, interrupting] I will explain that to you. In our country and among us, and with me personally, Powell's book — or Powell, or Powell, is that how I should pronounce it — stirred great interest, historic interest, and human interest. As soon as the book was published, no, not the book, as soon as the excerpts appeared in TIME magazine — about 45 pages that I could read — as soon as the first edition was published our Interests Office sent it and we assigned 46 translators to translate the book. They translated Powell's book in four days. But I have not yet been able to read the entire book because I had meetings, the visit to Uruguay, the meeting in Bariloche, the meeting in Cartagena, the meeting in New York. But as soon as I get some time I plan to read the 500 pages of Powell's book because of the interests I explained to you — historic, political, and human. I am, therefore, among his readers. But Colin needs to be warned that we will not print his book, but we already have it translated into Spanish. It is the first translation into Spanish. If he wishes we can lend him the material, which may be useful. Books take too long being translated afterward into Spanish and we had a need to get to know the book well. [words indistinct]

[Shaw] What would you think of Colin Powell becoming a presidential candidate?

[Castro] It would seem to me something very interesting; something new in the United States and would make the current political situation even more uncertain.

[Shaw] Mr. President, your daughter Alina Fernandez Revuelta is in New York streets denouncing you and your policies. How do you feel as Alina's father?

[Castro] Look, you are asking me a question of a personal nature, a delicate question. I feel that I should not discuss this topic publicly. It would not be gentlemanly, it would not be reasonable to do so. I prefer you to excuse me from replying to that question.

[Shaw] I understand and I respect your wishes.

[Castro] Thank you.

[Shaw] Personal contacts and discussions with world leaders are important to you. What would a meeting between you and President Clinton do for Cuban-U.S. relations?

[Castro] I believe that any conversation intended with a constructive spirit can be very useful, but that any conversation now in the short term between President Clinton and I will be very difficult considering current political circumstances in the United States with the election campaign close-by, the controversy and uproar that Cuba seems to elicit. I really wish Clinton the best success. In general, I can talk to all presidents once they cease being presidents, but while they are still presidents it is quite difficult. It is for this reason why I believe that such a talk would not take place. I was near Clinton during the photo opportunity. He was standing near-by looking around, smiling.

[Shaw] Did your eyes meet?

[Castro] Briefly. Therefore, I believe it would be safe to say that I received a speck of Clinton's glance and his smile which was also intended for everyone gathered there. Afterwards we walked by each other and he was also sitting at a table near-by. I listened to his address and applauded when he walked toward the podium and when he finished, as well as when he spoke during lunch as a matter of courtesy and because of some of the content of his speech.

[Shaw] Speaking of presidents who are no longer presidents, around the world former President Carter has helped to resolve conflicts in Haiti, North Korea, Africa and in other places. Would you welcome President Carter becoming involved in establishing a new dialogue between Cuba and the United States?

[Castro] I sincerely believe that current circumstances are not the most convenient for a successful mediation. I understand that Carter is a man of goodwill, and that he would like to struggle for peace all over the world. I recognize that he would also like to do something to improve relations between Cuba and the United States. Conditions, I repeat, are not yet fitting and I believe that Carter would be risking his reputation in an effort that might not be productive. It if for this reason why we would prefer to maintain some type of contact or exchange, but for now, not think about any mediation aimed at improving relations taking into account that we are in the middle of an intense and complex election campaign. I believe that we must protect Carter.

[Shaw] President Castro, American fugitive Roberto Vesco is under arrest in Cuba, what do you intend to

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

do with him, and would you extradite him to the United States?

[Castro] I would like to say something. He is under arrest on account of his conduct breaking our laws. Some of the activities he carried out in our country are illegal. Vesco arrived in Cuba when he was going through a very serious health problems. Friends of ours in Costa Rica, or I should say a well-known friend in Costa Rica, whose name I will refrain from mentioning, [words indistinct]. We accepted, he underwent treatment and he ended it successfully. Afterwards, all he needed were periodic tests and that is how Vesco arrived in Cuba. Afterwards, he requested a resident permit which, considering his background and as per requests from Central American friends of ours, we accepted as long as he was willing to accept our laws, and conducted himself accordingly. Thus, he lived in Cuba for several years. However, from the start, orders were relayed within the government that no business relations would be maintained with Vesco. That was the policy established. I understand that some people took advantage of his business expertise but the government had no relations with him. However, Vesco was very insistent and started to develop some activities that ended up violated standard policies as well as the countries' laws. We arrested him and launched an in-depth investigation into his activities. Now, you may ask me if we would be willing to extradite him back to the United States. I would ask, why? There is no record of the United States ever returning any person to Cuba, regardless of the crime they may he carried out. Hundreds of war criminals sought refuge in the United States after the victory of the revolution. These are people who killed thousands of Cubans and [word indistinct] and the United States has never extradited one of these persons. Therefore, there is no reason for reciprocity or to return Vesco to the United States. There would be no rationale or justification for this. One thing I can assure you is that Vesco will not be allowed to violate Cuban laws, and we intend to be very strict in applying these laws in a public trial and according to standard procedures.

[Shaw] If the United States were to return to Cuba the fugitives you want, would Cuba send to the United States the people the FBI and Justice Department wants; people who are wanted for murder, air piracy and crimes?

[Castro] Well, air piracy is severely punished in Cuba with several years imprisonment. This decision came about as result of one of our initiatives to put an end to a dilemma that could eventually end in a tragedy. We did not invent air piracy. Air piracy was invented against Cuba and then became a sort of boomerang. At any rate we were the ones who decided to solved the problem once and for all when one day we returned two air pirates to the United States to stand trial. They were two Cubans who had sought refuge. I understand that they were sentenced to 40 years in jail, and never once where their relatives allowed to visit them. On several occasions we requested that the U.S. authorities allow the two Cubans to serve their sentence in Cuba, to which they never accepted not even out of humanitarian reasons. So we decided to take whatever measure was necessary. Now, there is no extradition treaty, and if there was ever one it probably expired years ago because it was never honored. However, we find no reason not to have an extradition treaty with the U.S. authorities.

[Shaw] If there were a reciprocity?

[Castro] Yes, of course, it could not be any way otherwise.

[Shaw] In the U.S. Congress there is bill pending to tighten the economic embargo. Some of its provisions include that any country that [words indistinct] Cuban entry to world financial institutions. Your reactions?

[Castro] Quite well. I am at ease. We have been used to this sort of lunacy for some time now. However, to prevent an American citizen from tasting a candy made with Cuban sugar is to bar him from one of the best pleasures of the world. Many things can be made with molasses, even an excellent rum. In addition, there is a decorative aspect about molasses and Americans are being deprived from all of that. In addition, at this time, we still have more markets than mere sugar. Of course, there is a moral implication in all of this, an intention to intimidate all those who trade with Cuba and attempt to discourage them. The bill also has other measures just as the Torricelli bill, which is already in effect. This bill is practically approved. I say practically because we still do not know yet what will happen. One thing I can assure you is that the United States has strong opposition originating from Bariloche, Cartagena, and the United Nations. Overall, since the blockade was imposed it has cost Cuba more than $40 billion. Therefore, the United States has a tremendous debt with Cuba.

[Shaw] Before we pause for a very brief break, one quick question: If you were locked in a room with Senators Jesse Helms, Bob Dole, and House Speaker Newt Gingrich, what would you tell them, what would you say to them?

[Castro] I do not know whether they smoke cigars. I do not know whether they drink rum. I do not know if they are people who like to talk. However, I could begin by inviting them to try Cuban cigars or to have a drink of rum. We could talk amicably, not only amicably,

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

but respectfully. We could discuss anything they want because I feel that we are right and we are not afraid to discuss with anyone.

Now then, you would have to ask them. They would surely say: With Castro, never. We would never share a word with him. Perhaps they would say that, but I do not have their prejudice. I am more open-minded.

In the United Nations, there are countries that have differing views on many topics, and yet there is a dialogue there. But you asked me about my attitude, what would I say to them? First of all, I would have to confirm that they are people to which one can talk. Then, we could discuss any topic they choose or that was of our interest.

[Shaw] President Clinton has signed an executive order to ease travel restrictions on Cuban-Americans to Cuba, to ease restrictions on scholars, artists, and clergy members to allow [word indistinct] and human rights groups to work in Cuba, and to allow Western Union to open an office so that money transfers from the United States to Cuba can be cashed. The president has signed an executive order that will allow U.S. news agencies to open bureaus in Cuba and if you permitted this, Cuban news agencies could also open bureaus in the United States. Will you permit this?

[Castro] Are you asking, particularly the former question or are you asking me about...

[Shaw, interrupting] I do not want to seem as if I have a personal vested interest in the news bureaus. Of course, we are seen as yet another news agency that wants to be in Cuba, but the crux of the President's executive order, every aspect of it.

[Castro] That executive order, Bernard, is not completely clear. It is not understood yet. It says that under extreme circumstances, under an emergency, Cubans would be allowed to visit Cuba, that is the Cuban-Americans or the Cubans who come from the United States because they reside here. What is meant by extreme or emergency situations? Well, a grandmother who is about to die, is that an emergency situation? Or is it a mother with a terminal cancer, or a man who wants to see a cousin, or a man who wants to visit his girlfriend? I understand that from the human point of view, if an individual has a sweetheart in Cuba, he would get permission only once a year to see his girlfriend. Those are not the best conditions for the development of a romance. Thus, what is understood by that? To me, the visit to a sweetheart is within the circumstances, it is extreme and it is an emergency. Thus, all that is not understood too well. It is not clear to us yet, that about the executive order.

It established the possibility for the Western Union to act in the remittance of money to Cuba.

But you see, Cubans are the only U.S. residents who are not allowed to visit their relatives under normal conditions. They are the only ones prevented from helping their families under normal conditions. It is a true discrimination. Well, you know that the Torricelli Law exists and the so-called track two of the Torricelli Law.

It has been said publicly that there are two ways to destroy the revolution: one, through the Torricelli law and the other, through the Helms-Burton law. But the Torricelli law is a harsh law. It is truly a harsh law and Clinton said that he intended to reinforce the blockade against Cuba.

It is a kind of a remark which we feel is not totally clear. They want exchange, they want to send us sociologists, philosophers, politicians. However, they do not want to send experts on computers, mathematics, biotechnology, exact sciences, or research. They want an unequal exchange of ideas. We do not want that many scholars to send to the United States or that many scientists.

But let us turn to the press issue. Actually, all the journalists who have wanted to visit Cuba have done so. Hundreds of journalists have been there. The entire problem of the rafters' massive exodus was carried by all the agencies and the television stations that wanted to go to Cuba to transmit that to the entire world. We raised no obstacles to that.

Now, what does this mean? That news bureaus can be created and that we can do likewise, for every 100 bureaus created in Cuba, we wouldn't be able to create a single one in the United States because we do not have the resources. We do not have the money for that. It would be an unequal exchange of information. Thus, all kinds of news could be collected in Cuba, from the point of view of the foreign media and we would not be able to do the same with regard to the U.S. policy. Therefore, it is an unique situation. We truly prefer bilateral agreements with U.S. firms, with U.S. journalists, instead of an agreement of this sort, in these moments, under these conditions, when things are not too clear for us.

[Shaw] President Castro, what are U.S. businessmen telling you about their wish to do business with Cuba?

[Castro] What do I think?

[Shaw] What do U.S. businessmen tell you about their wish to do business with Cuba?

[Castro] U.S. businessmen, from what I have been able to observe, because I have talked to many of them, are

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

against the blockade. Call it blockade, call it embargo. But this is much more than an embargo, it is an economic war, an economic war against Cuba. But they do not agree. First, because they have economic and commercial possibilities and they are prohibited from taking part, second, because they are men who are used to struggle and are men who like competition. It is the same as if you are a prizefighter or if you play baseball or basketball and you are not allowed to compete. It is a problem of morale, mentality, and they suffer when they are not allowed to compete. I notice, I really observe, and today more than ever, a new phenomenon that is the great interest by U.S. entrepreneurs for economic relations with Cuba and the possibilities of investing in Cuba.

[Shaw] If the economic embargo were lifted tomorrow, would there be no freedom, political or otherwise, for the Cuban people?

[Castro] In Cuba, we can do what our country sovereignly decides to do. Our position is that we do not accept any types of conditioning that may affect the country's sovereignty and independence to solve economic problems between the United States and Cuba or political problems between the United States and Cuba. This is an old position. I can assure you categorically that we would not accept political conditioning.

[Shaw] Recently, you met with opposition leader Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo. Are you evaluating the possibility of allowing the formation of a political opposition party in Cuba?

[Castro] For the time being we are not thinking about that. [words indistinct]

[Shaw] What do you mean when you say: for the time being?

[Castro] That is true, we are not considering it. I do not know about tomorrow, or within 10 years, 20, or 100 years. In accordance with our way of thinking, our country is not served well by a multiparty system because we cannot fragment our people. We must keep them united, we cannot divide them in a thousand pieces.

[Shaw] But there are people who argue that this solidarity that you treasure is a form of oppression.

[Castro] Which one?

[Shaw] You say that political parties would divide the country and some would argue that this is exactly what Cuba needs, to break-up.

[Castro] If we had divided, if our people had broken-up, the people would not have been able to resist the terrible blow the U.S. blockade dealt for 35 years, nor would it have been able to support the disappearance of the Socialist field and the USSR. Only a united people could support such a blow. And this is in accordance with our tradition, because when the struggle for independence was organized, Jose Marti organized a party. But we do not have a system of parties, Bernard Shaw. This is something that must be understood because our party does not nominate or elect. In our country, nomination is directed by citizens, neighbors. It would be too long to explain. I say that it is the citizens who nominate. It is the circumscription deputies the ones who nominate National Assembly deputies. The deputies have to be directly elected by the people and they need more than 50 percent of the votes and they are the ones to elect the Council of State and the President of the Council of State. In Cuba, there is no presidential regime. President Clinton has many times the power I have. Latin American presidents in general have more power than I. As president of the Council of State I cannot even appoint an ambassador, I cannot appoint a minister. I cannot appoint officials that in many parts of the world are appointed by the president. They have to be elected by the Council of State. That is the reality.

[Shaw] President Castro, you are a student of history and you are a very imaginative thinker. Your have made sacrifices before. Have you ever considered resigning for the economic well-being of your country?

[Castro] Has anyone offered this to me? First, someone would need to make an offer. I do not see how my resignation could improve the country's economy. What I have said is that I will always be willing to do whatever is necessary for the good of the country. I do not have personal ambitions; I simply comply with the obligations that have been imposed on me. I have not imposed them on myself, it is life, it is the revolution itself, the people itself who have imposed on me those obligations. I have already said that we would not be willing to accept any sort of political conditions. If I accepted this idea I would be admitting that in Cuba political changes could be made, including the resignation of the revolution's leaders, in exchange of solutions to economic problems. We are willing to give our lives for the country, but we are not willing to sacrifice its independence, the country's sovereignty. We are not willing to sacrifice the principles. If I accepted that, I would be in contradiction of what I said before.

[Shaw] What will happen in Cuba after Fidel?

[Castro] I was telling a group of friends who were asking me that same question yesterday, that this is not my problem; that is someone else's problem. The dead

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

do not give opinions and when those who are retired give an opinion, no one pays much attention. This is the truth.

[Shaw] We are all mortal beings. One day I will be dead, you will be dead. How would you like to be remembered by the Cuban people and by the world?

[Castro] Don't you think that it is a bit difficult to speak about oneself? I do not allow myself to be carried away by vanity, by glory, or by history's judgment. Men pass, history passes, and once in a while, one is remembered. The important thing is to do one's duty and wage one's battle. I have some evidence that despite all the propaganda against Cuba and against myself, there are many people in the world who appreciate Cuba. I have just visited Uruguay and I was really amazed by the hundreds of thousands of people who mobilized in that country. I could hardly understand it because perhaps, thanks to you, Bernard, you have made me famous, you have turned me into a sort of David. The feelings that I was able to appreciate there were extraordinary. I have been in other places. In the Rio de Janeiro environment conference, there were representatives of the world over there. I spoke there...

[Shaw, interrupting] That is why I asked...

[Castro, interrupting] I have no complaints. There were so many people who went to greet me, so many people showed me support. I went to Copenhagen, and exactly the same thing happened. Today I spoke at the United Nations and the U.S. people witnessed what took place there. Then not everyone, Bernard Shaw, has such a bad opinion of me despite everything that has been said against me and everything that has been done against me. And as I am practically the only country that propaganda is concentrated on, then I have all the much more merit. Now there are no longer any attacks to the USSR, attacks to the PRC, Vietnam, the DPRK — only Cuba is attacked. All the campaign is against Cuba and Cuba has never had as many friends as it has now. I ask myself why? Could it be that we are right? Could it be that the people admire our struggle? Could it be that people criticize the cruel blockade against our country that kills men, women, children, youths, and the old? As I said today, it is just as if they were silent atom bombs. You know, Bernard, contemporary people do not have such a bad opinion. What will be the opinion afterward? That is something that should not be fundamental for a man — for a man who struggles, for a man who wants to accomplish a task, a man who acts in accordance with certain principles. But if the opinion that many have today counts, perhaps future opinions will also be good.

If there is one thing no one can deny it is that for the past 35 years we have been able to resist all the pressures, harassment, and threats from the most powerful nation on earth. We were able to withstand it in the political, economic, and military sphere. We were able to withstand the fall of the socialist block and the Soviet Union. People are capable of admiring those features. However, they are not entitled to attribute those merits to me, but to the Cuban people. I can sincerely say that I do not care what people may think of me, but I do care of the way our people will be judged and that our people are due a significant historical consideration.

[Shaw] Religion. When and where will you meet with Pope John Paul II?

[Castro] When and where? I cannot answer you at this time. There have been talks, it is not an impossibility. There are some political issues associated with our relations with the Cuban Catholic hierarchy that has influenced the visit one way or another. We do not want the Pope's visit to be transformed into an instrument of friction, contradiction, or conflict between the Catholic church — the hierarchy not the church — and the revolution. They have made some public statements that have been published, but it has been managed with tact and very carefully. Nevertheless, it is an element that has blocked the pope's visit to Cuba. Please allow me to add that I have a very high regard for Pope John Paul II. He is one of the most brilliant and extraordinary figures of this century, and one which I agree with on most issues, although not all. Nevertheless, he is a person who deserve all our appreciation and respect.

[Shaw] Mr. President, we are running out of time I have ten more questions. I will continue.

[Castro] You can continue, I will try to be brief, however you are the one who forces me to talk.

[Shaw] The human rights America's Watch group says that many of the meetings of the Evangelical-Christian movement, many of their meetings have been shut down by your government. Does the Evangelical-Christian movement annoy or disturb you and your government. Do you perceive it as a threat?

[Castro] No, on the contrary, from the beginning we have had excellent relations with the Evangelical church, ever since the beginning of the revolution to date. Unfortunately, the Catholic church in our country was always associated with the wealthy. There was not one single Catholic church in the rural area. This is an historical truth. On the other hand, the Protestant church went to the more into the popular sectors of the population and had preachers in the rural area associated with the poorest sectors. When the revolution

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

arrived good relations developed with all churches, but with some exceptions. Sometimes we have had some problems with, for example, the Jehovah's Witnesses on account of reasons which we are all aware off such as military service, the flag, the country's symbols, and so forth. However, recently, our relations with the Jehovah's Witnesses has improved significantly, and also with the Evangelical churches.

[Shaw] I miscalculated. I have less than a minute so I will ask you two questions very quickly. You are wearing a business suit more and more these days. Why?

[Castro] The reason for this is because in Cartagena during a summit meeting we were advised to wear a guayabera, and I discovered that I did not have one since I have not worn one for a long time. Neither did I own a suit. Some friends of mine decided to design a suit and give it to me as a gift. Here I am, dressed as a civilian for free. I feel quite well. I have done like Colin Powell who has now dressed like a civilian. However, only for formal and international events.

[Shaw] One last question and very briefly please [preceding three words in Spanish]. The world series is under way between the Cleveland Indians and the Atlanta Braves. Your favorite team, please?

[Castro] Most likely because of my friendship with Turner, I choose the Atlanta Braves.

[Shaw] President Castro...

[Castro, interrupting] Maybe it could have been a Cuban team competing.

[Shaw] President Castro, thank you very, very much for this one hour interview. It was a pleasure.

[Castro] Thank you very much.

[Shaw] You are welcome. [preceding three words in Spanish]

Radio Report on CNN Interview

PA2310003695 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2258 GMT 22 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] [Announcer] We have an exclusive report by Radio Rebelde for you: At this very moment Cuban President Fidel Castro is appearing on the CNN network live, interrupting the coverage to the heads of state in the United Nations. The first question is in connection with the October crisis in the 1960's decade. Radio Rebelde will deliver to you a version of this interview with the Cuban president.

The U.S. television network CNN began an interview a few moments ago with Cuban President Fidel Castro and requested information from him on the repercussions felt over the October crisis in the 1960's decade. The Cuban president replied that much caution was observed and that the former Soviet Union guaranteed, once the crisis was ended, that the United States would not invade Cuba as a result of the agreement between the United States and the former Soviet Union.

In another question by CNN's Bernard Shaw to the commander in chief, Shaw asked about a possible Clinton-Fidel Castro dialogue, to which the Cuban president responded that he followed Clinton's speech today in the United States with respect and applauded with courtesy and that certain aspect of the speech were positive. He also referred to the joint photograph with all the presidents and that he passed near Clinton, but there was no express wish for a dialogue. In reply to another CNN question, Fidel said that he does not consider that at this moment former President James Carter could assume the full responsibility of a dialogue between Cuba and the United States because it involves very complex issues. But nevertheless contacts are maintained, but it is not believed that there is an immediate possibility that Carter may be the mediator between Cuba and the United States. Another of the CNN question was the meaning of the Helms-Burton law for the Cuban president.

This has been an exclusive Radio Rebelde program.

Delivers Speech in Harlem

PA2310072395 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 0402 GMT 23 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] New York, 22 Oct (PL) Cuban President Fidel Castro today denounced the U.S. blockade on his country by calling it totally unwarranted and a kind of "silent nuclear bomb" that kills innocent people.

Castro addressed a crowd gathered at the Abyssinian Baptist Church in the black community of Harlem, which he visited tonight at the invitation of religious, political, and social organizations.

Castro affirmed that the Cubans have known how to be faithful to their principles and felt that the people of Harlem are recognizing that fact by their welcoming him today.

The Cuban leader recalled his experiences 35 years ago in that community, when he met black minority leader Malcolm X and many other personalities.

Those were hard days, and they still are. But a huge struggle lay ahead: the enormous battles by Martin Luther King for civil rights, the tremendous efforts by the Black, Hispanic, and Latin American minorities to

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

improve their living conditions, and the struggle of the elderly and the sick, he stipulated.

Fidel Castro stressed that many of those accomplishments are currently threatened. I know, he said, that some people would like to do away, completely, with all of this, with elderly care, the elderly.... They want to do away with all the great accomplishments which, for so many years, the common folks of the United States have fought.

Castro said he hopes nobody will charge him for that brief narration and countered that nearly 1,000 hours a week of radio transmissions are directed at Cuba fostering subversion, obstruction of the economy, and plots against Cuban leaders.

The Cuban leader underscored that he has had the privilege of surviving hundreds of attack plans.

"I think your prayers, or most of them, are protecting me," he said while receiving an ovation.

Castro added that these plans are still being made, although he did not blame the U.S. Government but, rather, the existence of extreme-right and fascist groups, who continue to work feverishly to carry out attacks on the Cuban economy and assassinate leaders of the revolution.

New York's television Channel One carried live part of the Cuban president's speech, who also visited the Theresa Hotel in Harlem.

Castro stayed in that modest hotel 35 years ago when he was denied a room in the major hotels of Manhattan due to the hostility of the U.S. administration during his first official visit in September 1960 to the United Nations, where he delivered a lengthy speech of more than four hours.

Diplomat: Castro 'Most Credible' Delegate

PA2310011095 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2255 GMT 22 Oct 95

[Report by Radio Rebelde correspondent Carlos Sanabria Marrero from the United Nations in New York — live]

[FBIS Translated Text] Again, just like 35 years ago, I listened to the echo of Fidel's brave voice denouncing and [word indistinct] in the large session room of the UN General Assembly. The people of Cuba, in the voice of our commander in chief, have told the world, which has been so much deceived by the U.S. media, the naked truth of [words indistinct], the truth full of [?dignity], the truth anticipating a future with a right to life. A demand for wealthy countries for a fairer distribution of riches, world unipolarity, the need to democratize the United Nations, and the condemnation of the U.S. blockade to our countries, were the aspects put across very clearly by the top leader of the Cuban revolution during his speech before the United Nations this morning.

Fidel is the most credible delegate here, with the spirit and reason to denounce the outrages of a power, which because it is at the head of a unipolar vord feels that it is immune to the censure over its conduct. These were the terms used by one of the many diplomats when commenting on Fidel's speech while leaving, like many other diplomats, the large UN room following the Cuban leader's speech.

Castro's Presence Said Focus of Attention in Cartagena

PA2110143795 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Oct 95

[Report by Barbara Bethancourt from Cartagena, Colombia; from the "Evening Information Review" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] The speech delivered by President Fidel Castro has had far-reaching repercussions here. This reaction has been expected ever since he spoke. We noticed that the other heads of state and government listened to his words with much attention and copies of his speech's transcription ran out immediately.

Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina confirmed this and told us about the favorable commentaries that other delegations made, not only for what they described as a courageous speech, but also because Fidel Castro was the only one who complied with the time constraints imposed by the meeting's presidency and because Fidel Castro was the only one who listened to the speeches of all his colleagues.

A similar thing happened in the media. The stellar "Good Morning, Colombia" television newscast dedicated a good number of minutes to comment on his speech. The reporter in charge of the live transmission from Cartagena said that Fidel spoke briefly, clearly, and strongly, and that he filled the expectations that were expected from his speech.

Written media have not for one moment stopped stressing his presence here. On 19 October, for example, [words indistinct] heads the frontpage of EL UNIVERSAL, which published a color picture of the president next to Yasir 'Arafat. EL PERIODICO DE CARTAGENA also published something similar. Meanwhile, EL TIEMPO decided to publish on its frontpage a group picture and a picture in which Fidel appears with Samper and other leaders. Inside pages also carry pictures of the commander, and most (?pictures) are accompanied

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

by headlines on a possible nonaligned condemnation of the U.S. blockade against Cuba.

This outstanding treatment is not exclusive to these days. We have been here for the past two weeks, and the Colombian media, and in Cartagena in particular, have been reporting about Cuba and its top leader. With objectivity and respect in most the cases, (?they reported) on his successful official visit to Uruguay, as well as his participation in the Ibero-American summit in San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina.

The truth is that no day has passed without us seeing a picture of Fidel Castro or a headline related to him or with Cuba. This was not the exception. He received the treatment granted to a true protagonist who is also admired.

Before concluding, I remind you that the 11th summit of nonaligned countries will close at noon on 20 October, but many of those who met here will see each other in New York soon at ceremonies to mark the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

Alarcon Interviewed on UN, Nonaligned Movement

PA2110150695 Havana Tele Rebelde Network Spanish 0151 GMT 21 Oct 95

[Interview with Ricardo Alarcon De Quesada, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, ANPP, by Irma Caceres, in CNN studios in New York City, and Orlando Contreras and Hector Rodriguez, in the Tele Rebelde studios in Havana; from the "This Very Day" program — live]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Caceres] We are pleased to have Ricardo Alarcon in this CNN studio because we are conducting all our broadcasts thanks to CNN cooperation. We have invited Alarcon precisely because he has spent many years here in the United Nations and has fought in many international forums on various issues. We thought we could begin these series for "This Very Day" program by speaking of a topic that is perhaps a little bit public. Is the United Nations valid, is it starting off, or is it in decay? This is a bit of what we are going to talk about tonight with Alarcon. We also have with us our colleague Contreras who might help us with this dialogue with Alarcon, which would enrich it. Alarcon, which of the two words would you use to best describe and comment on the United Nations — validity or decay? This is taking into account that 50 years is a prudent age and most people are still vital human beings and have an organization that is also being renewed. [sentence as heard] What could be said in the case of the United Nations?

[Alarcon] I must first say that the UN maintains its full validity. In other words, there is nothing that tells us that the purpose for which the organization was created — its goals, principles — has lost validity. On the contrary, we must take into account that during these 50 years the United Nations served as an important instrument to help the decolonization process. The United Nations contributed to codify and group together principles, norms, ideas, which are practically an inventory of the main problems. This includes everything Contreras referred to a while back plus the solutions, which most people will agree is true. On the other hand, the United Nations emerged with the end of the World War, the defeat of fascism. Fifty years after it was founded we have a new situation: During practically all this period there was the risk, the threat, the danger of a direct military confrontation between the superpowers. This risk is very remote now, it is practically nonexistent. However, in reply to your observation I would say that the validity is affirmed — the validity over the need, of the idea, of a worldwide organization based on what was established in San Francisco. Equality among states, independence of countries, the search for the peoples' well-being — liberty, independence, social progress, and so forth. When we dwell on all those things and see the reality 50 years after it was founded, even though basically colonialism has disappeared, one cannot say the same for backwardness and extreme poverty. There are many more millions of poor people today that there were 50 years ago. There is much more suffering by many more people than what there were half a century ago. On the other hand, there is no imminent danger of a world war, nevertheless there are more conflicts than in any other period of contemporary history. There is obviously something that is not working. I would say that in order to maintain this validity and in order to ensure that with the arrival of the half century the organization does not become decrepit and disappear, what is needed is a second thrust. Fifty years can also be a time to rejuvenate. Either the United Nations manages this or else its role in history will begin to inevitably diminish. But I do not think so. I trust that it can actually be the starting point for a new stage.

[Caceres] Opinions do not always agree. Do you believe that the consequences, the trauma, of World War II that made it propitious for this organization to start is really less that the world's current situation?

[Alarcon] At that time mankind was still in shock over the terrible Nazi experience and under the favorable impression of the victory of the antifascist coalition. We say mankind to be generous, but at the time there were about 40 states. The great majority were colonies that had no voice. If there is something

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

great about this organization it is precisely that it was capable of growing from the 40-odd states that founded it to become nearly five times the size because it helped open up to all that great number of mankind who were not here in the United Nations. Nowadays, I believe, the name of the game is to solve this great problem. The organization emerged from the victory over fascism — a victory against those who intended to impose themselves on the world, those who considered themselves superior to the rest of humankind, those who used violence and arrogance. The organization that emerged from the defeat of those people cannot become an instrument of arrogance, haughtiness, no one's hegemony. It must do what it has been doing all this time — an instrument in favor of the democratization of international relations, stressing the principle of equality, room for everyone in the world, respect to each person's rights. Is the organization today closer to this than at the beginning? I must say no. I must say that the Charter's basic postulates continue being fundamentally ambitions, but unfulfilled ambitions.

[Caceres] I am going to ask you — I do not know if Contreras has a question. Today, I was asking one of the two Latin American members of the UN Security Council — namely, Argentina — if it believed that, within 50 years, starting today, the Security Council could be reformed, taking into account that these five countries — not to the same extent, but most of them — took into consideration to agree on, decide, and establish the guidelines or the rules of the game in such a manner that it is almost impossible to change what was established in that date. Do you think that we still need 50 more years to change this? What do you think?

[Alarcon] Well, I think that the basic principles, the foundations of how the Security Council works by themselves are and were always questionable. We have to say that, in San Francisco, Latin America, as a bloc and as a group of countries, was the main opponent to this idea of the veto by a small group of countries that had more attributes than the others. However, there was a certain logic to it. The Security Council showed the alliance among the main countries that had become allies in the fight against fascism. To guarantee a certain balance, since these allies had major differences among them, they reserved this privilege for themselves.

However, today the conditions of that time [words indistinct] it would not be tolerable for an organization, the number of members of which has increased, to keep a privilege for a small number of states given the condition that there no longer is a justification for doing this. I believe that the question you asked the Argentine ambassador could also be made in relation to other issues.

A few minutes ago, Contreras was commenting something that I believe is quite truthful. The Cold War ended; however, the arms race continues. Now, we have to wait 50 years; I do not know how long we have to wait to achieve a general and complete disarmament, to eliminate nuclear weapons, to funnel or channel all that large flow of resources being wasted in the arms race to development and other useful matters. A few years since the end of the Cold War have elapsed, and no one talks about, nor there is an indication that we will move in this direction. The opposite is true.

The most we could say is how much we have to wait for the new principles of the new international order to be obeyed, respected. How long we will have to wait to implement what was approved here less than four years ago during the Childhood Summit? Will we honor the commitments we made here for children? It is very difficult; it seems to me it will be very difficult to achieve this even in rich countries such as this, which is the site of the United Nations. They are currently discussing this in Congress. They will not guarantee this to all children. Supposedly, all of us committed ourselves to give them... [pauses] I mentioned myself first as courtesy, because everything that was pledged has been a reality in Cuba for a long time, as you well know.

[Rodriguez] If you let me...

[Caceres, interrupting] Mr. Alarcon, let us give an opportunity to our comrades from Havana. I do not know if there is a telephone call. Please, go ahead.

[Rodriguez] Comrade Alarcon, I would like to ask you the following question: within the current UN structure and operation, we all know that the General Assembly approves resolutions. We also know that the Security Council has strength. However, these resolutions the General Assembly approves cannot remain on paper only; we have to implement them...

[Alarcon, interrupting] They should not remain on paper.

[Rodriguez] Then, I would like your comment on this, because we know that every year the General Assembly approves resolutions by an overwhelming majority; such is the case of the blockade. However, we lack an implementation and tangible measures, even if we accept that the General Assembly does not have authority as the Security Council does.

[Alarcon] Actually, I believe that is the heart of the matter. If we want an organization that will really follow the ideals contained in the UN Charter, then the General Assembly should make the decisions and demand their implementation [words indistinct] How do we justify

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

the fact that five members or any of these five members have the competence — this is what the veto is all about — to void the decisions that all members made? Technically, this could happen; this has happened in the United Nations. You were citing the example of the resolution against the blockade on Cuba; only one country vetoed it. There is only one other country that supports this veto, and this country, by the way, is not very zealous in implementing the government policy. The only thing it has done is vote for the United States. However, the blockade continues.

This is only one case, which is very significant for us Cubans. I can tell you that the general and complete disarmament, as Irma recalled, I was here for a few years; every year I came here. [sentence as heard] Every single year, by this time, the General Assembly approves several resolutions ratifying, reaffirming, stressing, and emphasizing that the humanity's objective is to achieve a general and complete disarmament. For decades, this objective has failed to be materialized in tangible actions by the large powers. During the Cold War, it could be somewhat justified due to the, let us say, rivalry. What justifies it now? If we let a small group or certain members of a privileged and exclusive club have authority over all members, you are undermining the foundations of the organization. In addition, this group fails to show the reality of the contemporary world.

This is why we, Cuba as a country — Fidel presented it again in Cartagena — we have proposed that, at least, since the unreasonable and arbitrary situation cannot be changed, an effort should be made to alleviate it somewhat by expanding the Security Council and giving permanent status to other countries. There is no African or Latin American country in this category.

European countries and other powers should not be the only ones to be permanent members of the council. Either greater powers should be given to the General Assembly or the General Assembly should exercise its powers contained in the UN Charter, first by checking the actions taken by the Security Council. According to the UN Charter, the UN Security Council must report to the General Assembly. That has not been the case in practice. The activities of the Security Council should be reported. They should not be secret meetings held behind closed doors. There should be a greater opening, a greater equality in the development of the activities at the United Nations. In other words, the General Assembly should be the vital center of the organization and not small [words indistinct].

[Caceres] Are you pleased, Contreras? Do you have other questions?

[Contreras] I would like to ask Alarcon something. About $3.4 billion are owed to the United Nations. The United States alone owes more than $1.2 billion. The U.S. Congress, which is dominated by the Republicans, is announcing through their spokesmen that it wants to reduce by 25 percent what the United States gives to the United Nations. This is an advantage for the United States. This is blackmail, I think. What do you think about this, Comrade Alarcon?

[Alarcon] That is an old debate in this country. Now that conservative sectors from the Republican Party have again gained positions in the U.S. Congress, there is a certain offensive in this regard. There are other Americans who have realized the importance of having the United Nations in its territory. Being the host country of the United Nations is an honor, a privilege the other members of the organization do not have. This is accompanied by great material advantages. Hundreds of delegations should be arriving there. Thousands of visitors, including journalists, diplomats, and officials, travel to the United Nations throughout the year. These people spend money in this city. They are bringing financial resources into the United States. Those resources do not enter Gambia. Cuba and Colombia do not get the benefits of having the permanent seat of the organizations, which means all countries of the world have permanent embassies here. They invest money in maintaining their missions here and in attending the meetings of all types every year.

The organization itself, since its seat is in New York, spends most of its expenditures in the United States, where they buy the paper, the ink, and the copy machines and so on. It is, therefore, shocking to see that the country that should be the first to pay on time is the country that receives the most from that budget. It even affords the luxury of using the nonfulfillment of its obligations, which even benefit this country more than any other, as a means of pressuring the United Nations. This is part of their incredible mentality.

If we were unable to see this on a medium such as television, you would not believe these people actually existed. One would think Jesse Helms has been invented by someone, a fictional character, but no, he is a real person. He actually exists and exerts pressures in his committee. He tries to impose irrational conducts that are even detrimental for the United States.

Let us hope that this tendency, this anachronistic leaning in this country, does not win and that the position of many North Americans, who are not fools, wins. These North Americans know what would happen to New York City if the United Nations were to leave, for example, if it were to fail because of its main sponsor,

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

because the main country did not fulfill its obligation. I do not want to imagine what would happen, how many jobs would be lost, how many hundreds of millions of dollars that flow to this city every year would cease because they are directly linked to the existence of the United Nations here.

This has been said by wise people in the United States. I trust this wisdom will prevail, because it has to do with the checkbook. Regardless of the rhetoric of the reactionary, they will be the main losers if this organization were to go bankrupt.

[Contreras] Regarding the summit that is about to begin this weekend: There will be a final declaration. We know how this is drafted. It begins at the expert level, then it moves to higher and higher levels until the most delicate points are considered by the chiefs of state and government. How is this going so far?

[Alarcon] I can tell you that the diplomats are still working hard to reach a final agreement on that document. This is normal. This has happened many times before. It is not easy to conciliate opposing points of view. This is an important document from an organization that is celebrating its 50th anniversary, and whether it can [words indistinct] depends very much on what is stated in that declaration, on what is included there, on how positions are posed. Important outlines are politically delicate. [45-second break in reception] ...evaluating the 50 years and the situation, I think what exists so far is brief.

[Caceres] Contreras and Hector: Will you allow me to ask a little question?

[Contreras and Rodriguez] Of course, of course.

[Caceres, laughing] Fine! You know something, Alarcon? Sometimes I think I hear too many people saying they agree with allowing the United Nations to engage in military interventions — we cannot say it any other way — in conflicts where there is no generalized war. What continent, what place, is free of conflicts? I think many countries are too quiet when this is reported and when there is mention of UN-promoted peace programs that have this UN role as a fundamental. We and just about everybody else realize what is behind this and who participates in this. I see the situation with some concern, because I have the impression that many countries do not react to it.

[Alarcon] There has been euphoria about this. A couple of years ago this was being discussed in a very relaxed fashion. Now there is in this country a good debate, because President Clinton has expressed his intention of sending a contingent of U.S. soldiers to cooperate and participate with the NATO forces that are there in Yugoslavia and Bosnia-Herzegovina. There is considerable concern and opposition even in the United States. Some people would like to have one international instrument to intervene wherever it would be good for them to intervene but on the condition that others contribute the dead and the payment of the expenses. This is to say, something not easy to obtain. In addition, we have fallen into another paradox. When the danger of thermonuclear and universal war gets farther away, conflicts of all types multiply.

For this reason, more think in terms of coercive and military actions and interventions; we should think about how to adapt this organization to this international situation. The importance and merit of the United Nations — I think the most important and most adequate part, which can be translated into today's world, is exactly what this organization established in its charter 50 years ago. If we could have these principles become an international standard, we could create a different world. I mean it is not necessary to draft another charter. There is no need to revise the organization's foundations. Few institutions in history can say that. This organization, 50 years after it was founded, remains in force to uphold the initial position, at least regarding the principles.

[Caceres] Then you think that the United Nations will remain? We are at the end of the century and the beginning of a new millennium. Do you think proper conditions will be created? We can see with satisfaction how the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] begins to concentrate its forces, which could truly play a more dynamic role. The majority of the undeveloped countries are grouped in NAM. We had observed NAM's weakening and drowsiness, which I think could also play an important role.

[Alarcon] The central purpose of NAM's actions, where they should direct their strength to revitalize the movement and reaffirm their weight in the international relations, is here. Since the beginning, the nonaligned countries have linked their activities to the United Nations. For this reason, most of the important decisions made at the United Nations — political, economic, juridical, and social — are associated with what we the nonaligned countries have been working on. There is a direct, organic relationship with an organization that was created for peace and international cooperation based on equality between the states, equal rights for all. This is the ideal organization as an aspiration for the southern countries. Apart from the southern countries, the nonaligned countries, no one else must assume the mission of struggling to have our principles applied.

Now when the need to affirm the validity of this organization or prevent its demise or manipulation for

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

the interests of a few is being debated — after all, it was created for this — I think the role of the nonaligned countries has increased and become much more important and necessary than during the Cold War, but above all, here, in this building.

[Caceres] In the United Nations? Come in Havana, please. Have you any questions?

[Contreras] We have several questions to ask.

[Caceres] Several questions. You must remember we have a time limit. [laughter]

[Contreras] Ten minutes?

[Caceres] We have 10 more minutes for the program, but we only have five more minutes for questions. Please, ask your question. I want to say good-bye to Alarcon.

[Contreras] Comrade Alarcon, I would like to know one thing: Since GRULA or the Latin American Regional Group usually meets and reaches several agreements during these UN meetings, has this organization scheduled any meetings on this occasion, and if this is the case, what will be the agenda for these meetings at the hemispheric level, in other words, at the level of Ibero-America?

[Alarcon] A GRULA meeting? In what context?

[Contreras] Within the context of this celebration.

[Alarcon] The regional groups always have their regular activities. GRULA is quite an organized group, and it has been operating as a group and holding meetings to draft the documents related to the special session held by the Assembly. However, as far as I know, GRULA has not held a hemispheric meeting as such, either separately or in parallel with the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

[Contreras] A last quick question.

[Caceres, interrupting] Make it quick, Contreras.

[Contreras] When will the Cuban petition on the blockade be debated and voted on... [pauses] in the General Assembly obviously?

[Alarcon] As far as I understand, the debate and vote on Cuba's petition is scheduled for the first days of November, that is, a few days after the commemoration of the UN anniversary.

[Caceres] Thanks, Contreras. This is not the end of the interview. Alarcon, what does it represent for a man to have had the experience of representing a small, poor, and underdeveloped country, a country going through a revolution, before the United Nations? From your personal point of view and experience, what has attending the commemoration here of the 50th anniversary of the United Nations meant to you?

[Alarcon] Your question sparks many special memories. On one hand, I worked in an organization that was the theater for major diplomatic battles waged by Cuba. The United Nations was the theater for the fights waged by Raul Roa, Giron, and the beginning of the confrontation the United States imposed upon Cuba. This was also the stage that enabled us to confirm and verify that, despite the policy of isolationism the United States tried to impose upon Cuba and which worked to a certain extent in the Western Hemisphere, Cuba has always had a broad solidarity and a share of sympathy, recognition, and respect that goes back to those early days. Personally, I also had the privilege of somewhat witnessing how the organization was evolving at the pace of changes taking place in the world.

It was also a privilege for me to be able to witness here all the efforts undertaken by the nonaligned countries against Portuguese colonialism; welcome friends from the former Portuguese colonies; participate in all the long debates regarding the rights of the People's Republic of China — seeing that they were finally taking place; and participate in the debates on Vietnam and many other key cases that divided the world.

If one takes a glance at the history of the organization, one realizes that the world has been advancing and progressing, in spite of everything. Some people might emphasize the negative aspects, such as the collapse of the Soviet Union or the socialist bloc, but from a historical view, these past 50 years have represented progress and the reaffirmation of positive and progressive aspects in the world, in spite of everything. I believe and hope this will be the path ahead of us.

[Caceres] Thank you very much.

Alarcon Urges 'Forceful Rejection' of Helms-Burton Bill

PA2010131195 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Oct 95

[From the "National Radio News" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] In any of its forms, the Helms-Burton bill deserves our forceful rejection, Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada stated on the eve of the vote of a version of the bill, which will probably be voted on this afternoon in the U.S. Senate. In statements to our newswoman Marina Menendez, Alarcon explained the legislative righting of wrongs the bill must be subjected to, before becoming a law with its nefarious objectives.

[Begin Alarcon recording] The Senate must approve today the version of the Helms-Burton bill. The House

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

of Representatives approved one version. Stemming from the basic document, the text has differences from the one that surely the Senate will approve today. The next step will be to hold a conference in which representatives of both the Senate and House of Representatives will negotiate and agree on a common text, overcoming their differences and settling on a single text.

This will finally be the one that both chambers will send to the U.S. President, so that he can make the final decision on whether to sign it or veto it, if he chooses to do so.

Both versions thus far are [word indistinct] which are repudiated by and flatly rejected by us Cubans. It would turn this country into a virtually annexed part of the United States.

Both versions establish the return of properties to all persons who, for one reason or another, lost them on 1 January 1959 or thereafter. Therefore, it is not only for those who had property, not only for bourgeoisie, not only for exploiters, but for [word indistinct] and embezzlers. All of these people confronted the revolution, and the revolution rightfully took action against them on 1 January 1959.

Also, both texts with the demands, the claims to those properties, are linked to maintaining the commercial, economic, and financial blockade against Cuba. The blockade will not disappear until such persons have recovered what they have the right to demand with this law. The Senate version has modified, not this aspect, but something which is also in the Chamber's version. It leaves the possibility of imposing other sanctions against investors in Cuba, prohibiting them from entering the United States, banning visas for them to visit that country, and opens the possibility of foreign investors being involved in legal suits in U.S. courts.

This is something that has caused many objections in the Senate. The version that they presented in order to reach an understanding eliminated those two aspects: The one on visas for investors to enter the United States, the prohibition of visas, and the legal suits that could be faced by those investors in U.S. courts. [end recording]

Alarcon Comments on Progress Report Assemblies

PA2110135095 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 17 Oct 95

[From the "NTV" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Several members of the Politburo chaired a meeting to discuss the People's Government progress report process, which will take place between November and December 1995.

Politburo member Jose Ramon Machado Ventura stated that it is essential to have the cooperation of all mass organizations, especially the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution and the press, to attain the electors' active participation. Machado stressed the need to summon the majority of community delegates to participate in order to discuss existing problems in each district.

A news conference was held after the meeting, during which Ricardo Alarcon, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, commented on some particulars of these progress report assemblies. He stated, for instance, that the assemblies will not try to put together too many electors, but rather will be small in order to achieve a fruitful exchange with the people.

Alarcon pointed out that delegates are supposed to establish daily contact with neighbors, instead of learning about the community's problems during the assemblies. He added that the progress report process will be flexible — the right locations and times for the assemblies must be selected and will extend up until January if necessary.

Progress report assemblies are very significant among other political work currently under way in the neighborhoods.

Raul Castro Bids Farewell to Russian Official

PA2110134695 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 17 Oct 95

[From the "NTV" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] On 16 October, Army General Raul Castro bade farewell to Oleg Soskovets, Russian first deputy chairman of the Government, who departed for Colombia from Jose Marti International Airport in Havana.

Soskovets chaired a delegation which conducted a working visit to Cuba for several days and toured locations of economic and social interest. Raul Castro was accompanied by Carlos Lage Davila, vice president of the Council of State; Division General Julio Casas Regueiro, first vice minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces; and Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas.

Raul Castro Attends Ukrainian Embassy Reception

PA2110200495 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 0208 GMT 21 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Havana, 20 Oct (PL) — Army General Raul Castro, the first Cuban vice president, attended a reception held by the Ukrainian Embassy in

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

this city today. The event was to mark the visit to Cuba of Ukrainian Prime Minister Yevheniy Marchuk.

Accompanied by Cuban Vice Presidents Juan Almeida and Carlos Lage, Raul Castro, who is also the Revolutionary Armed Forces minister, cordially talked with the Ukrainian premier and the members of his entourage.

Aleksandr Taranenko, the Kiev ambassador to Cuba, acknowledged the presence of the leaders and said the members of the diplomatic mission will continue working to strengthen relations between both countries.

For his part, Raul Castro thanked Marchuk for his visit and, likewise, stressed their cordial bilateral ties.

The reception was also attended by Deputy Foreign Minister Isabel Allende and the foreign trade and public health ministers, Ricardo Cabrisas and Carlos Dotres, respectively.

Before the reception, the mission from the European nation held a meeting with Cuban counterparts to assess the progression of their ties.

Cabrisas told PRENSA LATINA that they agreed to hold the next meeting of the joint intergovernment commission in Kiev on 14 and 15 November.

During the meeting, officials appraised several aspects of joint work in the economic and commercial areas.

Ukrainian Prime Minister Ends Stopover Visit

LD2210093395 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0435 GMT 22 Oct 95

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Konstantin Zhukhovskiy]

[FBIS Translated Text] Havana, 22 Oct (ITAR-TASS) — Ukrainian Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk who was here on a short visit left by air for Kiev Saturday. The Ukrainian leader made a stopover in Havana on his way from Colombia where he attended the summit meeting of the Nonaligned Movement.

On his arrival in Cuba on Friday Yevhen Marchuk was received by First Deputy President Raul Castro, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba. During the meeting various issues relating to bilateral relations were discussed, including the prospects for the work of the joint Ukrainian-Cuban commission for trade and economic, and scientific and technical cooperation, the first session of which is to take place in Kiev in November this year. On Saturday the Ukrainian guest went to see the tourist complex at Varadero.

Ambassador To UN Views Anniversary Session, Needed Reforms

PA2210035695 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Oct 95

[Interview with Bruno Rodriguez, ambassador to the United Nations, by special station correspondent Pedro Otero in New York; from the "Evening Information Review" newscast — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Otero] On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, I would like to learn from you what are the expectations in connection with this celebration? I would also like your confirmation as to the number of heads of state that will assist for these three days — 22, 23, and 24 [October]. I would also like to learn what comments are there on the final declaration and the text that may be approved on this anniversary?

[Rodriguez] There are lots of different expectations. I believe that the commemoration of the 50th anniversary is showing us that the world has changed for the worse on many issues and that predominantly unfavorable trends for the Third World prevail today — trends based on a unipolar point of view, on unipolar hegemony. Topics such as those listed in the principles of the UN Charter, like the sovereign equality of states or territorial integrity, are issues that are difficult to list in a document because there are those who oppose. It seems to me that the Third World is expecting from the summit, despite knowing that the results will reflect these current trends, a strong defense and dignified voices that save the Third World's basic interests, specifically the defense of states' independence and sovereignty and other UN Charter principles, as well as the right to develop. Regarding confirmation of heads of state, this information is handled by UN protocol services. The latest information I heard mentions 139 heads of state, but this is information that I know changes every day. Regarding the declaration of the UN's 50th anniversary, right now it is impossible to predict if there is even going to be an agreement on the text of a declaration. The text that is still under discussion reflects the many contradictions between developed countries and the Third World on the same topics I have mentioned. Whether an agreement is reached today on this will depend on everyone's flexibility. I am convinced that what is most important is what the heads of state say in their speeches or the delegation heads attending the summit. What will definitely remain on record is what the heads of state of Third World countries say, I believe, because the final document will reflect the current balance. It is a document of commitments that leaves out many truths.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

[Otero] It there any direct relationship between the UN's 50th anniversary with existing demands for reforms? I would like to know very briefly what is Cuba's position on UN reforms?

[Rodriguez] There is a connection because there were even attempts to impose hurried formulas to arrive at solutions according to the interests of certain states regarding Security Council reforms. If there is a declaration, there will be a mention that recognizes that work has been done on this but no basic agreement was reached. Our position in this regard is known and is based on the concept that the Security Council should be deeply reformed, should be democratized, should become more open, should be adjusted to the principles established in the UN Charter regarding Security Council powers, and the role of the General Assembly must be respected. The General Assembly is the only truly democratic organization within the United Nations because it is the only organization that has representations of all states. Likewise, the veto privilege must be abolished. Veto power is absolutely out-of-date, obsolete, and antidemocratic. Cuba's position on this is that the Security Council must expand its membership with basically Third World member states, that the permanent Security Council members should also be increased with Third World member countries. This process should be based on reaching a fair geographic balance. In other words, fair representation of the Third World, which right now is under-represented in the Security Council. There are different negotiable proposals on this, starting with the basic Cuban proposal that no less than two new permanent members should join for each of the Third World's regions.

[Otero] Lastly, I would like you to very briefly speak about the upcoming vote — perhaps you already have a date — on Cuba's bill against the U.S. blockade.

[Rodriguez] On 2 November the General Assembly may possibly debate the Cuban resolution bill that right now is circulating unofficially in the United Nations and is being consulted with other delegations. Immediately following the debate there will probably be the vote-taking. There is a favorable atmosphere in the United Nations toward this. Countries that voted favorably, which last year amounted to 101, have in general promised to maintain their support to our resolution. It is important to note the international rejection on the attempts to tighten the blockade and the unusual extraterritorial coverage with the blockade-tightening bill.

Haiti

Aristide Announces Upcoming Change of Government

PA2010165295 Port-au-Prince Radio Galaxie in Creole 1000 GMT 20 Oct 95

[Report on visit by President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to Bel Air by Jean-Donald Werleigh on 19 October; from the "Let Us Sit Down To Talk" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] The main local headline for this morning is, as we told you, that the president of the country, Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, toured and talked with the people of Bel Air. In fact, President Jean-Bertrand Aristide confirmed on 19 October that the government is going to change hands. We are going to have a new government. Aristide made this statement yesterday while addressing the people of Bel Air. Our colleague Jean-Donald Werleigh, who was on the spot, filed a report.

[Begin recording] [Werleigh] In Bel Air there was carnival, a party, on the occasion of the visit of President Aristide in this area on the afternoon of Thursday, 19 October. Between 5,000 and 10,0000 people gathered in front of the Our Lady of Perpetual Relief Church to listen very carefully to the speech of President Aristide in this slum neighborhood. The organizers of this visit, who spoke first, presented to the president the list of demands of the Bel Air people. They asked for vocational schools in this area, repairs in the schools which are in bad state, health centers, community drugstores, drinking water, repairs in the Bel Air roads which are in bad shape, work, reduction of the high cost of living, ridding the public offices of macoutes, and so on. For his part, President Aristide was virtually unable to deliver his speech properly because a crowd, that was growing bigger at every minute, was chanting one single slogan: [crowd shouting: three years, three years, three years]. Not only the pressure of the crowd gave the policemen who were ensuring security many problems but the partisans were so stubborn in their demands that Aristide was obliged to give his opinion more clearly this time on the question of recovering the three years spent in exile.

[Aristide] If I respect you [applause], I cannot pretend that I do not see or hear. If I respect you, I cannot fall into political hypocrisy. If I respect you, I must acknowledge what you request, listen to what you request, and to understand it. [applause] When I was running for candidate, you asked me whether I was going to pass. I said: Yes, I am going to pass and — when I pass — this means I am going to give you power and you will give it to me. Power is in

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

your hands, do whatever you want with it. [applause] Without you, I am nothing. Without you, I have no strength. Without you, I have no power. Without you, it is impossible to take up the challenges. Without you, it is impossible to accomplish the miracle called food for all, justice for all, houses for all, and respect for all. No politician, no president, no government — beginning by myself — can manage to [words indistinct] if he does not unite with you, Haitian people. This is why, this afternoon, I am saying again that I have seen, I have heard, and I have understood. Without falling into any traps, any temptations and also without scorning the demonstration you have staged this afternoon which others might use to accuse me... [pauses] For instance, if I suspected that I was going to ask for three years like you do, perhaps, I would hesitate to tell you, perhaps I would be afraid of coming, perhaps, I might not come. However, [words indistinct] democracy. We worked for democracy. Democracy means total and complete freedom of speech.

[Werleigh] President Aristide took the opportunity to confirm during his visit in Bel Air the change that will be made within the government. He did not explain whether Prime Minister Michel would be renewed or a new prime minister would be appointed. In this sense, he called on the Bel Air people to come and cooperate with this new government. Let us listen to Aristide.

[Aristide] We are going to have a new government. [applause] I believe the upcoming government must take lessons from you, people in Bel Air, to hear your demands like I did this afternoon, to sit with you in Bel Air. For example, I will invite your representatives in Bel Air to participate either in the first or in the second Council of Ministers which will be held at the National Palace [applause] so the upcoming government can live through a piece of the experience I am living through now. Then, you will feel that your participation as Bel Air people in the new upcoming government will help you charge the confidence battery which is exactly the same thing as the participation battery.

[Werleigh] President Aristide answered Bel Air people's request to turn the premises of the former Engineering Corps of the Haitian Armed Forces [FADH] into a leisure center. He took the opportunity to say that in the next few days Cafeteria [fourth police company of the FADH in Port-au-Prince] will be turned into a demands office. Furthermore, he invited the people in the area to bring their collaboration to an important literacy campaign which will begin. The funds to pay all the youths who want to participate are already available. We were quoting from President of the Republic Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Anyway, it was a great day this Thursday afternoon in Bel Air on the occasion of the visit of the president. Three years or not, many observers believe this area which is in a bad shape will draw something positive. Jean Donald Werleigh for Galaxie. [end recording]

Leblanc Refuses To Approve Michel's Resignation

PA2010142895 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 19 Oct 95

[From the "Waking Up Newscast"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The president of the Haitian National Assembly, Edgard Leblanc, called for the signing of a Haitian social pact for progress and modernization during the solemn opening of the Parliament on 18 October. Leblanc, who is the Senate president, and also presides over the National Assembly, has sent out this call to both the Haitians of the interior and those living abroad.

Leblanc did not approve Prime Minister Smarck Michel's resignation. He did not support Michel's decision to resign from his post whereas the president of the lower chamber heartily applauded Michel's decision.

Furthermore, National Assembly President Edgard Leblanc wished the newly elected Parliament to be different from the previous ones by its respect for democratic norms.

[Begin Leblanc recording] We will have to make use of all our militancy and all our competence to give back to the Haitian Parliament the prestige, the credibility, and the sense of dignity it needs (?to be equal to) the responsibilities required by the moment. [passage omitted]

The parliamentarians must resume their works today in separate chambers until the agenda is exhausted. I am informing you that yesterday's agenda included the ratification of a prime minister following the resignation of Smarck Michel. I am informing you that until now the head of state has not yet publicly pointed out whether he accepted or not the resignation of Mr. Michel. The official suppression of the Army which is advocated by President Aristide following the Costa Rican model was also in the agenda. Today, at the Parliament other important issues will be discussed.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

New Prime Minister 'May Be Designated Next Week'

PA2010203195 Port-au-Prince Radio Galaxie in Creole 1000 GMT 20 Oct 95

[From the "Let Us Sit Down to Talk Newscast"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The president of the Haitian Senate, Edgard Leblanc, has announced that a new prime minister may be designated next week. The Senate president has mentioned certain names such as the director of the private cabinet of President Aristide, Leslie Voltaire, Planning Minister Jean-Marie Cherestal, and Fred Joseph, an economist working in the private cabinet of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

We will return to the Haitian Senate in a moment. We are now going to the lower chamber, where our colleague, Miche Sully, interviewed the president of the Chamber of Deputies; we mean Deputy Fritz Robert Saint-Paul.

The approval of a new prime minister who is supposedly endorsed by the executive is one of the big issues on the agenda of the parliamentarians of the 46th legislature.

This is a statement by the president of the lower chamber, Deputy Fritz Robert Saint-Paul, who was speaking during a news conference he held yesterday before the deputies' work session:

[Begin recording] [Saint-Paul] Up to now, the Chamber of Deputies is unaware of the choice. Meanwhile, a special commission has been formed to look into the matter of the new prime minister to be chosen by the president of the Republic.

[Sully] [Words indistinct] be a reconfirmation of Smarck Michel in this post?

[Saint-Paul] One of the stipulations of the subject clearly states we will have to approve a new prime minister.

[Sully] Do you already have someone to propose as prime minister?

[Saint-Paul] [Words indistinct]

[Sully] What can we expect from this new Chamber of Deputies?

[Saint-Paul] As I have already said, it is a relatively young chamber that has much competence, all the more so given it is a chamber stemming from the grassroots groups. Let us say that it is a.... [pauses] All the parliamentarians are people who always took committed positions. We believe it is a pretty promising legislature. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Senator Raymond Views Michel's Performance

PA2010150095 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 19 Oct 95

[From the "Waking Up Newscast"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Senator Eudrice Raymond has asserted that a vote of nonconfidence cannot be cast on a prime minister because he does not belong to any political grouping but rather one must consider how he performed his duties, he said. Sen. Raymond has called on his peers to surpass themselves and not be guided by passion but to behave as responsible parliamentarians so that history does not condemn them.

[Begin recording, in Creole] [Raymond] It is not necessarily a party. You can see the thing in a broader manner. It is... [pauses] a front. The Lavalas Platform is a front. So, as it is a constituent front which participated in the elections under a single banner, from that moment on — if you wish — the body constituted by this front constitutes itself as a party. From that moment on, the word party should not be seen as a restricted term. We must call what we see a body, a political body. This political body is well-constituted within the Parliament; in fact, it is a major party.

[Unidentified journalist] Sen. Raymond, if you had a suggestion to make to your colleagues in the Parliament as to whether to keep Prime Minister Smarck Michel as the head of the government, what would it be?

[Raymond] When a prime minister is chosen, this choice is based on the policy he plans to carry out. Depending on whether this policy is accepted by the population, by the country, you can say whether the policy that was carried out was positive. But we have noted that there is [passage indistinct] of the expectations of the people toward the Haitian Government, there are many complaints about the high cost of living, and recently against privatization. When you consider the prime minister's overall performance, you can say whether it was positive or negative. [end recording]

Senators Adopt Measures Against Absentees

PA2110134495 Port-au-Prince Radio Galaxie in Creole 1000 GMT 20 Oct 95

[From the "Let Us Sit Down To Talk" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In the next 48 hours, disciplinary measures may be adopted against Senators Bernard Sansaricq and Thomas Eddy Dupiton [known for their support of the military regime] who have not gone to the Senate up until now. These measures will be taken in order to force these senators to come to work as

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

they should. These decisions were unanimously adopted within the Senate on Thursday, 19 October.

According to the Constitution of the country, these senators cannot be excluded. The parliamentarians say they are ready to take all measures against the absentees so as to eliminate the operational fees of these senators. [passage omitted]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

PEMEX Sales to U.S. Increase 63 Percent

PA2110162895 Mexico City EL FINANCIERO in Spanish 17 Oct 95 p 16A, 16B

[Article by Miguel Angel Sanchez]

[FBIS Translated Text] In contrast to public speeches, which rejected guaranteeing the supplying of crude oil to the United States, the security with which Mexican crude is flowing to U.S. refineries is something more than a certainty.

Through long-range commercial contracts and financial operations regarding the future sale of Mexican crude, Mexican energy officials have yielded on one issue that they ardently defended during NAFTA negotiations: guaranteeing a supply of energy to the United States.

The official numbers are revealing. Between 1990 and the present, oil exports to the United States have increased more than 63 percent, and currently, the United States has managed to concentrate between 79 to 83 percent of the Mexican crude expended in the market.

The reaches of the Mexican commitment to supply oil to the United States is of such magnitude that in August the United States consumed 1.25448 million barrels of Mexican crude per day, 50,000 more — and of better quality — than that consumed by our national refineries.

Far removed from the policy which promoted internal consumption and avoided the concentration of more than 50 percent of oil exports in one country — so as not to compromise energy independence — the new policies satisfy the claim of security and lower prices in energy supplying that the U.S. Government demanded during NAFTA negotiations.

In truth, contrary to what is usually said, that concern found full expression in the document regarding the trade treaty. Article 602 establishes that "the parties recognize that it is desirable to strengthen the important role that the trade of energy products and basic petrochemicals plays in the free trade arena, and to increase that role through gradual and sustained liberalization."

The same article in the document explains that "by energy goods we mean ... goods classified according to ... sections 2708 and 2709" of the System of Unified Tariffs of the U.S. International Trade Commission; the latter section refers precisely to crude oil.

That "gradual and sustained liberalization" of so-called energy goods is the principal guarantee for the supply of energy and is the factor which explains the preference shown by U.S. companies for Mexican crude.

For U.S. energy officials, a guaranteed supply is no longer an issue. This is true to such as extent that since July 1994, the U.S. Government has stopped purchasing crude for the so-called strategic oil reserve with which the United States would face eventual ups and downs in fuel supplies.

Since 8 July 1994 that reserve has been kept at 579.2 million barrels of crude, and to date there are no apparent plans to renew stockpiling.

In addition, the liberalization of the oil trade between the two countries has forced Mexican energy officials to assume an aggressive sales policy, which is starting to pressure Mexican crude prices downward.

For example, on 28 September, Mexican Petroleum [PEMEX] announced discounts of between 10 to 45 cents to its American, European, and Asian clients in all October shipments of Maya and Istmo crude.

According to international businessmen related to PEMEX's clientele (the state-owned company has not disclosed particulars on this issue), the largest discounts were given to European buyers who this month will receive a 45 cent discount per barrel of Maya crude and 20 cents for the Istmo crude they consume.

Moreover, U.S. refineries which use Maya crude will obtain savings of 30 cents per barrel of crude, while PEMEX's Asian clients will receive a 10 cent discount on all their purchases.

Ambassador Studies Trade Outlook With Russia

PA2110223395 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1605 GMT 18 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 18 Oct (NOTIMEX) — Abelardo Trevino, Mexican ambassador to Russia, today studied with Russian deputy prime minister Serguei Shajrai the possibilities of economic and commercial exchange between the two countries.

The meeting, held at Ambassador Trevino's residence in Moscow and which lasted more than two hours, opened a broad outlook for the relations between Mexico and its enterprises and the various regions of the Russian federation.

Shajrai, responsible for political coordination with Russian regions, offered to organize a meeting between the enterprise managers of Russia's interior and the Mexican enterprises that will participate in Moscow's Food Fair 95 next month.

The Mexican ambassador underlined for Shajrai the special interest of the Mexican government, President Ernesto Zedillo, and Mexican Foreign Secretary Jose

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Angel Gurria in "stimulating and strengthening the bilateral relations." "The financial difficulties that Mexico and Russia are experiencing should not be an obstacle but a stimulus," Trevino said.

He said: "Creativity in the design of schemes is necessary to speed up trade in some instances even without the participation of foreign currency."

Trevino said the Russian Federation represents a very attractive market for a large number of Mexican products and services which are competitive in terms of quality and price. One example of this potential is Empresa Mexicana de Autobuses, S.A., which at this time participates in a bid to renovate the bus service in Russia. The enterprise is about to have 200 buses allocated to it.

In addition, the Russian market is already receiving Mexican food, beverages, and tobacco and about 20 enterprises prepare to participate in the World Food 95 exposition-fair to be held in Moscow in November. According to the committee in charge of organizing the fair, Chauthemoc-Moctezuma Brewery, the Model Group, Tequila Herradura, Jugos del Valle, Herdez, and Madero House have already confirmed their participation in the fair. The list of Mexican participants is complemented with Tres Estrellas, Columbia Laboratories, Nutribebidas of Aguascalientes, Sabropollo, Frigorizados La Huerta, Certified Industries, Chiclets Canels, and Exincomer. Representatives of Linx Exportadora, Grupo Agricola El Marino, Sigma Alimentos, and TWD are expected to arrive as observers.

Forum for Unity Participants Approve Provisional Council

PA1510120695 Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 12 Oct 95 p 14

[Report by Matilde Perez, Gaspar Morquecho, and Elio Henriquez]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] San Cristobal de las Casas, 11 Oct — The 243 delegates of 150 political and social organizations in the country who have participated in the first Forum for Unity and National Dialogue have approved by consensus the creation of a provisional council to sponsor the dialogue and national unity.

The list is headed by Subcommander Marcos, Cuauhtemoc Cardenas Solorzano, chairman of the Foundation for Democracy, and Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador.

Jorge Gleason, a member of the National Council of Representatives to the National Democratic Convention, presented the proposal and has said: "We must walk out of here with something in our hands; we cannot leave disorganized." He has said the commission "has no limits and excludes no one. The names were proposed taking into consideration their representative and plural character."

He added that the council will sponsor at the national level the creation of a Broad Opposition Front. [passage omitted]

During the meeting, the assembly stated its support for the struggle waged by the Sutaur [Single Union of Route 100 Urban Passenger Bus Workers]; agreed to participate in the so-called Referendum for Liberty, convoked last month by eight organizations demanding a change to the national economic program; condemned the rape of three nurses from the Epidemiology Department's National Vaccination Program, in the Health Secretariat's second sanitary jurisdictional; and demanded punishment for the rapists, presumably members of the Mexican Army.

At the work tables, the Independent Proletarian Movement (MPI) proposed the creation of a social enterprise comprised of Sutaur workers and requested that this be included on the national agenda.

Regarding the national economic situation, 47 delegates from 30 organizations who participated in the table that analyzed the topic warned that the crisis "has yet to reach rock bottom and will continue to worsen." Therefore, they insisted on the creation of an alternate economic plan. Referring to this, Antonio Hernandez Torres said the results of a referendum for liberty carried out by the Civic Alliance will serve to demand that the federal government and Congress of the Union change the neoliberal economic model.

Discussing the topics of the militarization of Chiapas and various states in the country, the delegates said they advocate the creation of a special human rights committee that strictly supervises the Armed Forces, and they demanded the abolishment of the white guards and other repression corps. A strong debate occurred during the plenary when a proposal was submitted to defend "the human and work rights of the Armed Forces and police members." This was rejected almost unanimously—only eight votes in favor— amid jeering.

The delegates agreed to hold a second meeting on 20-21 November in Mexico City and a national mobilization for the defense of national sovereignty and independence and the search for unity, to demand a new plan for the nation.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Costa Rica

Assembly Passes 'Protest' Against Senator's Proposal

PA2110143895 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1513 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] San Jose, 20 Oct (ACAN-EFE) — The Costa Rican National Assembly approved "a strong protest" against a proposal by U.S. Senator Robert Dole to impose sanctions on this country because of an agreement signed with the European Union [EU] regarding the banana trade, legislative sources disclosed today.

The motion was approved last night amid a heated debate, after listening to Foreign Trade Minister Jose Rossi, who gave an extensive report on the scope of Dole's proposal and the serious economic repercussions it will have for this Central American country.

Dole is one of the most determined aspirants for the candidacy of the Republican Party.

Dole's recommendation follows a complaint filed last year by the U.S. multinational corporation "Chiquita Brands," which views as "discriminatory" a framework agreement signed by Costa Rica and Colombia with the EU last year to regulate the banana trade.

Rossi stated that Dole's proposal represents a payment of the political tab passed by "Chiquita Brands," which presumably contributed to his campaign for the U.S. Senate.

The protest approved by the Costa Rican Legislative Assembly, which asks that Dole's motion be rejected, will also be submitted to the U.S. Senate.

Legislators from different parties who took the floor harshly attacked the intentions of the Republican senator and the banana company, which filed a complaint against Costa Rica following the treaty with the EU.

Deputy Constantin Urcuyo, of the Social Christian Unity Party (PUSC, opposition), admitted the possibility of probing into the operations of the U.S. multinational corporation in Costa Rica.

This motion is part of the offensive maintained by Costa Rica against Dole's intentions to strip this country of the trade benefits it receives through the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) and the Generalized Preference System (GSP).

Under the protection of these trade benefits, most Costa Rican products enter the U.S. market tax free.

If Dole's initiative is approved, Costa Rica would end up at a trade disadvantage compared to other countries.

Costa Rican President Jose Maria Figueres and Colombian President Ernesto Samper indicated in a letter sent last week to Bill Clinton, their U.S. counterpart, the serious losses the approval of these sanctions would entail for these countries.

Costa Rica's diplomatic efforts seek to block the initiative in the Senate. If the Senate passes it, this country will ask the House of Representatives to veto it, or as a last resort, would ask President Clinton to veto it.

Tomorrow, Minister Rossi will leave for Washington, where he plans to meet with various political figures to explain Costa Rica's policy regarding the trade of bananas — the country's leading export.

The agreement with the EU gives Costa Rica the largest export quota of the fruit to Europe, namely, 23.4 percent of a global allocation of 2.2. million tons a year.

Guatemala

De Leon Carpio Comments on Ibero-American Summit

PA2110182195 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 19 Oct 95

[From the "Telepress Newscast"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Upon returning from Argentina today, President Ramiro De Leon Carpio said that, in spite of the negative effect that the Xaman tragedy had worldwide, his government's reaction and the changes made in the military structure favorably changed this adverse impression of the international community, judging from what he perceived at the Ibero-American Summit.

[Begin De Leon Carpio recording] All of the presidents attending the summit and the spirit of the summit itself were absolutely positive. More than anything else, it was based on the fact that I described before the summit all of the details of what happened, of the tragedy, of how it was incomprehensible, of how it was unjustified, and at the same time, I explained the Guatemalan Government's reaction.

You are all aware of these events. More than a negative result, this has had a completely positive effect. The actions by the Guatemalan Government are recognized at the international level, as well as the progress Guatemala has made to this effect, deeply regretting and condemning the high cost of the loss of 11 human lives and the 29 wounded persons.

Therefore, far from having a negative effect, this has had a very positive effect for the democratization process in Guatemala, for strengthening civilian power, for

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

strengthening the peace process. I believe this will set a precedent, and we hope this will never occur again. [end recording]

De Leon Carpio also emphasized as a significant achievement the point in the Bariloche Declaration that criticizes the existing trends in the U.S. Congress toward imposing trade restrictions, which were recently debated and which — although they are not specified in the final document of the summit — apply to Guatemala.

[Begin De Leon Carpio recording] According to the principles of the UN Charter, of the WTO, of international law, as well as with the resolutions of the UN General Assembly, we reject the unilateral coercive measures that affect the well-being of the Ibero-American peoples, that prevent free trade, and the trade practices that are recognized worldwide and violate the principles that rule regional coexistence and the sovereignty of states.

However, they went further.... [pause] because this is a generalized declaration that one could say was issued in favor of all countries, including Cuba, which is enduring a blockade by the United States. The final paragraph says that right now we are particularly concerned over the modifications that are being discussed in the U.S. Congress that would go in the opposite direction of these principles whose application we are demanding.

In a discussion, it was wondered how it could it be possible that at a time when everyone has recognized the progress Guatemala has made in the field of human rights and the efforts that Guatemala has made to attain peace, there could be congressmen and senators in the United States who are proposing coercive measures against Guatemala and economic sanctions that could even jeopardize the peace process. [end recording]

The implementation of a system of civilian intelligence within the state of Guatemala was mentioned today as one of the goals of the current government in its last three months, according to what President Ramiro De Leon Carpio said upon returning from the Ibero-American Summit.

[Begin De Leon Carpio recording] Today, I had the opportunity to talk with several presidents. All modern and efficient states have civilian intelligence services, which is what we are trying to organize for the first time in the history of Guatemala. That is why it is also incomprehensible that some oppose civilian intelligence bodies that help the president and the state of Guatemala to make decisions.

When I am referring to civilian intelligence, I am referring to gathering information so that the president and his government at a given moment will be able to make decisions based on specific information, on what the state civilian intelligence services provide.

That exists in all countries of the world, and that is apart from military intelligence. What we are trying to set up here — and I will leave it established, as a matter of fact, because I believe in it, and I believe it will be very useful for future governments — is civilian intelligence and that will be the first time Guatemala has that. It even helps to make decisions with regards to neighboring countries or other economic blocs. [end recording]

PLP Presidential Candidate Hurt in Helicopter Accident

PA2310014695 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2152 GMT 22 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Guatemala City, 22 Oct (ACAN-EFE) — Local radio stations have reported that the conservative Acisclo Valladares was hurt today after the helicopter he was flying in had to make an emergency landing.

"Sonora is the News" reported that at the time of the accident, Valladares, who is also the former attorney general, was involved in a campaign tour of five towns in northern Guatemala.

The accident occurred at 1400 (2000 GMT) in Rabinal, Baja Verapaz Department in northern Guatemala, 171 km away from the capital.

According to eyewitnesses, who are Valladares sympathizers, the aircraft fell from an altitude of 50 to 60 meters when it experienced mechanical failures.

Another helicopter took Valladares, candidate of the Progressive Liberator Party (PLP), to Herrera and LLerandi Hospital, a private hospital in Guatemala City. Hospital authorities reported that the candidate is out of danger but there is a possibility that he has some fractured vertebrae.

According to radio reports, those injured in the accident include Cesar Loy, a PLP candidate for mayor of Rabinal; Luis Vega, a journalist who works for Valladares whose leg was broken; and the pilot, identified as Captain Medina.

Special Prosecutor Handling Xaman Massacre Resigns

PA2010205995 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 17 Oct 95 p 4

[FBIS Translated Text] Lawyer Oscar Alcides Sagastume Martinez, whom Attorney General Ramses Cuestas Gomez had appointed special prosecutor to handle

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

the massacre in Xaman, Chisec municipality, Alta Verapaz department, has decided not to continue with the case. He said he addressed a letter to Cuestas saying this case should be handled by a prosecutor out of the Public Ministry, this is to say, a private individual.

According to Sagastume, Helen Mack Chang recently questioned his appointment for the position saying his actions in other cases, where he had been judge, had been dubious. He mentioned, for instance, a warrant of arrest that he released against Indian leader Rigoberta Menchu when she returned to the country from exile. He said that, at the time, the National Police received a written report saying Menchu was linked to guerrillas, that she led subversive groups from Nicaragua, and that, for this reason, the police asked him to issue an arrest warrant, which was justified.

He added that another instance for which he is being objected is the case of anthropologist Mirna Mack Chang, a process people say he delayed intentionally. In this regard, he said that this case had already been studied by 11 judges before he took charge of it as a sentencing judge.

He also said: *In addition, it was not I who finally passed sentence. It was lawyer Carmen Elgutter, because I no longer was the judge. When doubt is cast on a person's actions, particularly in special cases like the Xaman massacre, I think it is advisable for such a person to refrain from hearing it. I think Helen Mack should better meet with the Attorney General and tell him which prosecutor she desires for this trial, Sagastume said.*

Hector Rene Perez Solares has filed at the 10th Court of Appeals a request for a preliminary hearing against Public Ministry prosecutor Julio Eduardo Arango Escobar, special prosecutor in the Bamaca case. It has been reported that the lodger of the request is a high-ranking Army officer, but it was impossible to obtain further information on why he filed this request against the prosecutor.

Lawyer Oswaldo Alegria, who was appointed investigator judge, said he could not provide more information because he still had not started to study the case. *I will begin to study the file tomorrow. Then I will know the lodger's basis for requesting the hearing,* he said.

Prosecutor Arango Escobar was attacked several months ago when an unidentified man fired a gun several times against his office, located in the fourth floor of building 3-11 on 6th Avenue, Zone 4, in Guatemala City, a building also occupied by the Public Ministry.

Agrarian Office: Peace Negotiations Void After 5 Years

PA2010142495 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 17 Oct 95 p 4

[Report by Julio Revolorio]

[FBIS Translated Text] Through a complaint, the representatives of the National Agrarian Coordinating Office [CAN] have asked the judiciary to determine whether the peace negotiations process and its results are legal. According to CAN President Gustavo Anzueto Vielman, the results are void after five years of talks, particularly in the phase in which current Peace Commission President Hector Rosa Granados is in charge.

CAN's lawyer, Francisco Palomo, filed the complaint at the First Preliminary Criminal Judgeship at 1205 yesterday.

CAN also accuses Rosada of crimes such as *an attempt against the state's integrity and independence, illicit association and illegal grouping of armed people, abuse of authority, resolutions violating the Constitution, usurpation of authority, failure to report a crime, and concealment.*

According to Anzueto, the legal action seeks *to recover the lost hope for a true peace process, which has been frustrated after five years of a negotiation that is truly bogged down, because reality indicates the situation is worse than at the beginning.*

Another aggravating circumstance, Anzueto added, is the concern provoked by Rosada's remarks that the negotiations and their results are political not juridical and that this will affect the next three or four governments. He said: *Rosada has usurped an authority he has no right to use. He has started negotiations with an illegally created group, the results of which, illegal and secret, have been endorsed, supported, and financed by foreign organizations and countries, mockingly and clearly violating Guatemalan internal law.*

Asked about the motives behind the organization's actions, Anzueto said at no time do they respond to fear over agrarian reform, because the implementation of a populist program is already outmoded and could bring about a bigger confrontation.

He said: *We propose that instead of giving the land away to others, land which has cost so much, we give impetus to a program to support the existing land parcel system, grouping and reorganizing it. Let he who is unable to meet the market's challenges sell his land so only those who could produce for the country can participate.*

The situation is such, he added, that the land being reclaimed is tilled land and that there remain more than

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

1,600,000 hectares of parceled but unproductive land *the recovery of which from the market viewpoint we are willing to advise on, because it is the only way toward self-financing.*

If the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity wants to be reincorporated into the national life, it should first seek refuge in amnesty and from there initiate a true negotiation process. For this reason, the possibility of proceeding similarly with short-term unconstitutional actions cannot be ruled out, Anzueto said.

If the judiciary admits the illegality of the process, it would permit the suspension of all that has been acted on, paving the way for all those who have done nothing against *those criminals* to take the pertinent legal actions, he said.

If they persist on the need for an agrarian restructuring process, the land will remain idle. Whether it is sold or because of onerous taxes, the land anyway would aggravate this concern, Anzueto concluded.

It was reported at the court that received the complaint that the file would be transferred to the Supreme Court of Justice, which will have to appoint the corresponding comptroller judgeship in the next few hours.

Honduras

Spokesman for Accused Officers Files for Protection

PA2010184595 Tegucigalpa EL PERIODICO DE HONDURAS in Spanish 20 Oct 95 p A3

[FBIS Translated Text] Tegucigalpa — At the First Court of Appeals, Carlos Lopez Osorio yesterday filed a petition for protection against a court order issued by the First Criminal Court for the arrest of three military officers, which is pending.

According to the petition, the judiciary insists on maintaining a case in which legal responsibility has already expired, but the court argues that the due process is not yet over to decide on a petition that has been presented in this regard.

Lopez Osorio is the spokesman for the legal commission that is counseling the 10 military officers who are under investigation in the case of the missing individuals. He warned that each official is legally responsible for his official conduct, is subject to the law, and is never above the law.

He stressed that no official, whether a civil or military employee, should obey illegal orders or those with a view to committing a crime.

He insisted in this regard that the arrest warrants issued by Judge Roy Medina are illegal.

He said if the chiefs of the Criminal Investigations Directorate, DIC, or the Public Security Force, FSP, commit this offense, they will be considered legally liable.

Army Chief on Arrest Warrants

PA2010165195 Tegucigalpa Telesistema Hondureno Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Oct 95

["Exclusive" telephone interview with Armed Forces Chief General Luis Alonso Discua Elvir by Edgardo Melgar in Tegucigalpa on 19 October; from the "This Very Day" newscast — live]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Melgar] A few minutes ago we reported we had a last minute report on what is happening with the Armed Forces officers for whom arrest warrants have been issued. Via telephone, we have reached Armed Forces Chief General Luis Aloso Discua Elvir. We thank you for giving us this interview. General, good evening. Can you hear me?

[Discua] Yes. Good evening, Mr. Melgar. We are listening to you, and we are watching you as well.

[Melgar] Well, thank you. Gen. Discua, in your last remarks on this issue you said this is not an institutional problem. Have you met here in the country with the officers for whom arrest warrants have been issued following your return from Nicaragua, where I understand you were decorated and received important homage from your counterparts?

[Discua] No, Melgar. I have not met with these officers. Simply, I have tried not to get the institution involved in this problem. Consequently, I have not maintained any contact with these officers.

[Melgar] Gen. Discua, have you had any communication with the Attorney General's Office, the prosecutor's office, or the Department of Criminal Investigation [DIC]?

[Discua] I want to express that I maintain excellent relations with the DIC and the Attorney General's Office, but at this time I have not had any contact with the Attorney General's Office or the DIC.

[Melgar] Gen. Discua, do you have any commitment or have you pledged to surrender the accused in this case as soon as possible or in the next few hours to the prosecutor's office?

[Discua] None whatsoever. As I said, I am the chief representative of the institution and have always wanted to clarify this matter. This is not an institutional affair; it is a personal affair. The two active-duty officers and the retired officers have their own attorneys, and

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

they will act following the recommendations of their defense attorneys. Therefore, since the problem is not an institutional one, I did not want to get involved or appear to have yielded, as if the institution is facing off against the judicial branch. I believe this must be clarified because this does not help the country.

Therefore, I have preferred that these issues be treated at the personal level, that is through the officers' defense attorneys, who make whatever recommendations they see fit.

[Melgar] Gen. Discua, in your personal opinion, do you believe that the accused officers — for whom arrest warrants have been issued — should turn themselves in to authorities, before they confront the shameful situation of being apprehended?

[Discua] Today I heard some statements by prominent attorneys, and I believe they clarified many doubts in this regard. There is an amnesty decree-law in effect. I believe these cases should be treated taking this decree-law into consideration. I also believe that these affairs are being handled by the corresponding entities.

[Melgar] But don't you believe, General, that, for the sake of the tranquility of the institution and the country in general, this should be resolved as quickly as possible? In other words, shouldn't these officers appear in court and face the charges in court, as you said, because as long as they don't appear in court a public discussion that will not benefit the institution or the country will continue?

[Discua] What you have just said is true. Courts are independent entities. Therefore, I believe laws are clear. I repeat, the military officers are acting based on the recommendation of their defense attorneys.

[Melgar] Do you believe these officers are receiving good advice as they have gone into hiding and chose not to appear in court voluntarily?

[Discua] I would rather not comment on this because I am not an attorney. However, I believe that the attorneys, who are the experts about the law, act based on how the situation develops.

[Melgar] Gen. Discua, I asked you that question because the fact these officers are fugitives from justice adversely affects the very institution and the tranquility of the country.

[Discua] No, this does not affect the institution. You must remember that the institution does not consist of two or three people. It is an institution of national character. I believe the situation will be resolved within the proper institutions and in keeping with the law.

[Melgar] Gen. Discua, quickly changing the subject to a topic of great importance, when will the Senior Council of the Armed Forces [Cosuffaa] meet to define the list of three candidates for the position of Armed Forces chief, your successor, which will be submitted to Congress?

[Discua] Cosuffaa will meet soon to discuss the issue of the three-candidate list that will be sent to Congress to fulfill, within the legal framework, the constitutional provisions regarding election of the Armed Forces chief.

[Melgar] It has been learned the three-candidate list includes the names of [Commander of the Army] Mario Raul Hung Pacheco, [Colonel Oscar] Servellon Moradel of the Honduran Air Force, and also [Commanding General of the Honduran Navy] Bruno Giordano Fontana. Is this true, General?

[Discua] Well, since the Cosuffaa has not yet met, we cannot advance any information. However, that may be the three-candidate list, but Cosuffaa has not met to define the three-candidate list that will be sent to Congress.

[Melgar] General, could you announce when this three-candidate list will be sent to Congress?

[Discua] As I said earlier, that will be decided by the Cosuffaa. It will elect the list of three candidates, the date it will be submitted. This will all be done in accordance with the Army Basic Law and the Constitution of the Republic.

[Melgar] Gen. Luis Alonso Discua Elvir, thank you for granting us this telephone interview. Good evening.

Nicaragua

National Assembly Approves Report on New Election Law

PA2110190495 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 18 Oct 95 pp 1, 8

[Report by Edgard Barberena S.]

[FBIS Translated Text] With 66 yeas, zero nays, and zero abstentions, last night the National Assembly approved a general report regarding a proposed electoral law and began a regressive countdown to constitutionally define the rules for next year's electoral process.

The legislature's decision came hours after the plenum of the Supreme Electoral Council [CSE] approved calling 2.5 million people to vote in 7,200 polling stations in the first round of the elections on 20 October 1996.

The only senator present who did not vote was Frank Duarte. [sentence as received] The vote took place when

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

large numbers of senators had left their seats, although some senators simply did not attend the afternoon session.

First Speeches

Seventeen speeches preceded the vote, after the new electoral law proposal was read to the plenum by Dr. Hernaldo Zuniga, who presided over the special advisory commission.

Dr. Danilo Aguirre opened the debate by explaining some concepts included in the commission's report to the plenum. Moreover, Roberto Urroz said the law had been widely consulted over, and "we are proud that it is going to be one of the best electoral laws in Central America, and that is why I believe there will be complete agreement regarding this law."

Eliseo Remigio Altamirano said that the report is a step forward in the modernization of the electoral system and has the virtue of having been lengthily discussed during the period of its elaboration. Moreover, Nathan Sevilla supported the approval of the report and revealed he has reservations regarding this particular debate.

First Objections

Sevilla objects to the law giving legal status to political parties which have at least one deputy in the National Assembly. Victor Manuel Talavera said that after having approved the constitutional reforms, the next important step is a new electoral law which introduces some innovative ideas for the democratization of Nicaragua.

Talavera rejected arguments that the sum of the reforms do not meet requirements and said that such arguments are made to delay the approval of the bill, similar to the "traps" set for constitutional reforms.

Adan Fletes said that he found confusing paragraphs in the report, forcing Dr. Zuniga and Engineer Jaime Bonilla to clear up certain doubts to the Democratic Christian legislator, while Duilio Baltodano advocated allowing citizens living abroad to vote.

CSE's Vote Coincides

Referring to the call for elections made yesterday by the CSE, Alfredo Cesar said that the decision taken by the magistrates — that voters go to the polls on 20 October 1995 — is in agreement with the date established in the report "but as long as the specific calendar remains unapproved, the possibility exists that it could be altered in the new electoral text."

Liberal Party Senator Julia Mena referred to the mechanisms contemplated in the law for handling the state funds which political parties will receive for their election campaigns, and Dr. Hernaldo Zuniga, referring to the demand for voting by citizens residing outside of Nicaragua, said that to establish that right, voters must have the same guarantees as voters in Nicaragua; therefore, the needed prerequisites were agreed on.

Panama

President: Trade With Cuba To Continue Despite Embargo

PA2010211795 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 20 Oct 95 p 4A

[Report by Carlos Vargas]

[FBIS Translated Text] President Ernesto Perez Balladares said Panama will maintain trade relations with Cuba, and he warned that "no one will dictate" to his government "who are to be its friends and who are to be its enemies."

Perez Balladares said his government will "respect" U.S. policy regarding Cuba, which might worsen should the U.S. Senate approve a bill to harden its economic embargo against the island.

The Panamanian president stated: "We have perfectly normal diplomatic relations with Cuba as well as trade relations through Panamanian businessmen in the Colon Free Zone, which we intend to maintain."

Perez Balladares underscored, "We are independent and sovereign enough so as not to have a list of friends and enemies imposed upon us."

He pointed out that the Cuban issue is a Latin American problem, but it is basically a "bilateral problem" between the U.S. and Cuban Governments.

President: No One To 'Dictate' Friends

PA2110194795 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Oct 95 p 3A

[Report by Manuel Alvarez Cedeno]

[FBIS Translated Text] President Ernesto Perez Balladares said today that Panama maintains normal diplomatic relations with Cuba, and warned the "we will not allow anyone to dictate our friends or enemies."

The Panamanian president's statement was given after his return to Panama from Argentina, where he took part in the 5th Ibero-American Heads of State Summit. Cuban President Fidel Castro also attended the summit.

Perez Balladares was asked about Cuban participation in the summit and replied that the "Cuban issue continues to be of interest to Latin America."

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

However, that is an issue which focuses essentially on Cuba's bilateral relations with the United States and not an issue which should be dealt with in a special summit.

For 32 years the United States has maintained a blockade against Cuba, whose penalty has been described by the Fidel Castro's Government as "troglodytic and murderous," while some U.S. groups affirm that the measure directly affects the people of the Caribbean island and not the Cuban Government.

The U.S. Senate is studying a law that strengthens the embargo and establishes sanctions for nations that maintain trade relations with the Castro government.

Minister: U.S. Proposes Issues for Talks on Bases

PA2010151595 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Oct 95

[Report by Mara Rivera from the "RPC Television News" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] The United States has informed Panama about what issues it would like to discuss in the talks on the permanence of bases in Panama. The exploratory talks that will be held with the United States are intended to evaluate the possibility of extending a U.S. presence at its bases in our country. These talks will begin next 30 November, and commissions designated by both countries will participate.

The foreign minister announced during a news conference that the United States has already informed Panama about the issues it wants to discuss in those talks:

[Begin Foreign Minister Gabriel Lewis Galindo recording] The personnel they would like to keep in Panama; the location of the installations they would like to use together with us; the duration of that presence; and the economic impact it may have in our country.

We will go frankly to these talks without any previous deal with the United States, as Panamanian politicians have suggested. [end recording]

The foreign minister has reiterated that Panama's foreign policy is defined by President Ernesto Perez Balladares, adding that Panama will sit down to listen to proposals and will consider them, taking into account what is best for our country. This does not necessarily mean these proposals will be accepted.

Meanwhile, the foreign minister has said the government will consult other state bodies on this issue when it deems it appropriate, and will consult other political parties if deemed necessary.

Meanwhile, for certain opposition parties, it is best not to have been invited.

[Begin recording ofn Guillermo Casco Arias, secretary general of the Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement, Molirena] We were not officially invited. They did not even try to come talk to us, according to the information I have, and I believe this is even better, because, in any case, most Molirena members oppose participation in these talks. [end recording]

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry has guaranteed that the community will be kept abreast of the development of the exploratory talks, which will begin 30 November, through the spokespersons of the Presidential Commission appointed in this connection.

Payment 'Least Important Point'

PA2010144595 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 19 Oct 95 p 1

[Report by Arnulfo Barroso Watson and Aquilino Ortega]

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Gabriel Lewis Galindo said yesterday that the payment of a lease for the use of the U.S. military bases "is the least important point for the country" if such a presence "can lead to economic benefits that can be quantified in the creation of jobs."

"We would like to receive economic benefits, but this does not depend on the payment of a lease," said Lewis Galindo. This is "something much more complex than the payment of a lease," because the country will not solve the problems it is experiencing just by receiving economic compensation," he added. [no opening quotation mark as published]

Panamanian Ambassador in Washington Ricardo Alberto Arias has said the United States' position is that of not paying a lease for the use of the bases. Reliable sources have told "EL PANAMA AMERICA" that it is difficult for the United States to pay a lease to Panama when it is not paying in other countries of the world or even in its own territory.

Lewis Galindo said that Michael Skol, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs and head of the U.S. team, has said that the agenda that will be brought to Panama revolves around the number of troops and military bases the United States would like to maintain, the duration of this presence, and the impact on the Panamanian economy.

Meanwhile, Michael Skol has told correspondent Henry Raymont that talks with his Panamanian counterpart will take place in a "climate of friendship and goodwill," with a view to setting the foundation for future relations on a "level of greater fairness and equality."

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

"Future talks with Panama will be a major landmark in the process with a view to strengthening democratic institutions, economic integration based on free markets, and a greater sense of confidence, equality, and goodwill."

Skol refrained from commenting on statements by Ambassador Arias on the U.S. position of being unwilling to pay a lease for the use of the bases. The U.S. assistant secretary, who will be traveling to Panama on 29 November, has said "there is still much to be done" in order to ensure greater coordination between the two agencies involved in the talks.

Meanwhile, Juan Carlos Pardini, president of the American Chamber of Commerce and Industries in Panama, contends that the presence of U.S. troops in Panama after the year 2000 is more important to Panama from a "strategic" rather than an "economic" point of view.

Presence Expected To Yield Benefits

PA2010151695 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Oct 95 p A1

[Report by Manuel Alvarez Cedeno]

[FBIS Translated Text] The United States has formalized with Panama its agenda on exploratory talks on certain military bases, while the Panamanian Government has said it expects economic benefits should it decide to prolong the U.S. military presence beyond the year 2000.

The number of U.S. military soldiers, bases, and defense sites to remain in Panama after the year 2000 will be the issues the two countries will discuss at the end of November in the Panamanian capital, Panamanian Foreign Minister Gabriel Lewis Galindo announced yesterday.

Lewis Galindo has said in a news conference these are the topics proposed by Michael Skol, U.S. assistant secretary for inter-American affairs, in a document delivered to the Panamanian Embassy in Washington.

The United States and Panama will hold exploratory talks on 30 November and 1 December to analyze a possible stay of a U.S. military force in Panama after 31 December 1999, the scheduled date for the total withdrawal of U.S. troops.

Lewis Galindo has said the Washington administration has proposed the topics but has not yet indicated the number of soldiers and bases it intends to keep in this country.

Nevertheless, unofficial sources have said the United States is interested in keeping control of the important Howard Air Force Base as well as Galeta Island in the Caribbean, where it had an ultramodern electronic monitoring system and a 3,000-strong military contingent.

The United States currently has 10 defense sites and about 8,000 soldiers in Panama.

Reacting to sectors of the opposition who accuse President Ernesto Perez Balladares of having a "hidden agenda" for negotiations with Washington, Lewis Galindo has said "we are going to analyze the U.S. proposal in those talks, without any previous agreement."

The foreign minister has said Panama expects to obtain economic benefits from the possible extension of the U.S. military presence, which does not necessarily take the form of payment of rent for the bases.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Argentina

Menem on Clinton Letter, Bariloche Summit, Interest Rates

PY2010174595 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2057 GMT 19 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Oct (NA)—President Carlos Menem stressed today that the letter he received from U.S. counterpart Bill Clinton congratulating him on the accord between Argentina and the United Kingdom on oil exploitation around the Malvinas Islands "shows again that the pen is many times mightier than the sword."

Commenting on the missive Clinton sent to congratulate him on the agreement signed with the United Kingdom in New York last month, Menem underlined: "When one speaks clearly, one obtains results."

The president noted that the letter encourages him "to continue negotiations in order to achieve our objective: To regain sovereignty over the [Malvinas] Islands."

The head of state then said he "accepted the resignation of his former drug czar, Alberto Lestelle, because I ordered his resignation," since "there was no alternative" following his remarks about congressmen allegedly using drugs.

Menem told Argentina Televisora Color Network that Lestelle was an "excellent aide who did a lot on the issue of drugs, but who made a mistake that he himself acknowledged."

Commenting on the recent Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, the president said the best factor "was the great sense of solidarity" among those nations, which "gives creates an encouraging present and an excellent future if we continue to analyze the subjects we discussed at such an exceptional level."

Reviewing education, which was a key issue in the discussions among the heads of state and government, Menem pointed out that there were "excellent proposals, which raised the possibility of gradually creating in our respective countries the conditions required to gradually advance through increased exchanges, not just in the political field, but also in economic and cultural fields."

Menem then said that the summit of European heads of government will be attended by the four presidents of the Mercosur [Common Market of the South] member countries in December. He said this summit will be "extremely important" for advancing the free trade zone between the two blocs.

Menem then said: "All of us, presidents, are concerned about the tragedy of unemployment which affects developing countries and developed nations alike."

Menem said the unemployment problem could be overcome by changing the educational system, "allowing people the chance to render services and work."

The president again criticized the extremely high interest rates that prevent developing productive activities.

He said: "Bank clients are paying interest rates of 25 percent per annum but inflation does not exceed 3 percent per year." He described this as "an abuse."

Menem concluded: "We must reduce the banking operational costs so as to reduce interest rates. No one can profitably work and produce with these extremely high interest rates."

Foreign Ministry Communique Confirms Major-Menem Meeting

PY2010225795 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1919 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 20 Oct (NA)—The Foreign Ministry confirmed today that President Carlos Menem will meet with UK Prime Minister John Major in New York on 23 October within the framework of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the United Nations.

This information was made public by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship through a brief communique issued shortly after Andres Cisneros, Foreign Ministry secretary general, divulged details about the meeting between Major and Menem.

Cisneros reported from the United States that the meeting—the highest level political meeting between London and Buenos Aires since the 1982 war—will have an "open agenda, since the Argentine Government does not want to limit bilateral relations to the issue of the Malvinas Islands."

Nevertheless, Cisneros deemed that the possibility of a state visit to the United Kingdom by Menem will not be broached at Monday's meeting because "that is not an urgent subject." He nonetheless considered that "this is a first step; the following ones will come in due time." [passage omitted]

The meeting between Major and Menem will take place at the United Nations Plaza Hotel, located on First Avenue and 44th Street in Manhattan.

The Argentine Government attaches great importance to these talks because they would be instrumental in consolidating the oil agreement signed last month and would constitute a new step in the strengthening of relations with the United Kingdom.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Major and Menem, who had "shaken hands" in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, will be accompanied at the meeting by Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind and Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella, respectively.

Some of Major's aides had advised him against meeting with Menem to prevent the meeting from being used by the Argentine Government "to provide some relief from domestic problems." This notwithstanding, the pragmatic wing of the Foreign Office [preceding two words in English] gained the upper hand with the help of the oil barons who are interested in the Malvinas Islands business.

Cisneros declined to comment on the criterion followed by the British politicians for deciding against next Monday's meeting in New York. [passage omitted]

Reportage on Shooting of Iranian Economic Attache

Police Superintendent Describes Incident

PY2310105695 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0113 GMT 22 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Oct (TELAM)—A police spokesperson has reported that Haban Ali Rajvi Yardi, the economic attache at the Iranian Embassy in Buenos Aires, was seriously wounded when he was shot by an unknown person on a motorcycle while traveling in his car with his family in the Buenos Aires district of Belgrano.

Police Superintendent Alejandro Hayet, chief of the 33d Precinct told TELAM that the incident occurred at 1430 [1730 GMT] at the intersection of Pampa and Arribenos Streets.

The diplomat was driving a Mercedes Benz car in the company of his wife and two children, who were not hurt.

A police source stated that the Iranian was shot in the chest and was seriously wounded, but he was able to reach La Sagrada Familia Clinic, located at the intersection of Hernandez and Libertador Streets of Belgrano, where he is currently interned.

The unknown person, who was wearing a helmet, also fired several shots at the vehicle, the source stated.

Just after 2200, Interior Security Under Secretary Alberto Iribarne arrived at La Sagrada Familia Clinic.

The under secretary stated that he did not reject the possibility that the attack against the diplomat was an attempt on his life.

Moises Rabani, cultural attache at the Iranian Embassy, arrived at the clinic a few minutes later.

Link to AMIA Bombing Not Ruled Out

PA2210133795 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1231 GMT 22 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Oct (EFE)—It was officially reported today, 22 October, that the highest authority at the Iranian Embassy in Argentina, Habban 'Ali Rajavi Yardi [name as received], was wounded last night after being shot by an unidentified person, who after attacking him fled on a motorcycle at full speed.

Rajavi Yardi, who is the charge d'affaires at the Embassy, was shot in the chest while riding in his car along with his wife and two sons through the neighborhood of Belgrano in Buenos Aires.

Medical sources reported that the diplomat underwent surgery successfully this morning.

The attack on Rajavi Yardi takes place at a time when Argentine Judge Juan Jose Galeano is seeking evidence linking Iranian diplomats to the 18 July 1994 attack that destroyed the headquarters of the Israeli-Argentine Mutual Association (AMIA) in Buenos Aires, in which 86 persons were killed.

Galeano, who is in charge of the investigation, asked for the arrest of Iranian diplomats a long time ago, but the Supreme Court, the highest-level court in the country, rejected the measure saying there was not sufficient evidence to uphold the charges.

Argentine Deputy Interior Minister Alberto Iribarne said today that the government "does not rule out any hypothesis," when asked if the attack on Rajavi Yardi could be related to the terrorist attack that destroyed the AMIA.

The Iranian diplomat is 33 years old and arrived in Buenos Aires a few weeks ago to carry out his duties as charge d'affaires in a mission that has no current ambassador, which makes Rajavi Yardi the highest authority of the Islamic Republic in Argentina.

Despite the seriousness of the wound, the Iranian drove his vehicle to the "Sagrada Familia" Clinic located in Belgrano neighborhood, where he received first aid treatment and was operated on this morning.

Sources from the clinic told the local media that Rajavi Yardi's life is in serious danger because the bullet nearly missed his heart and inflicted liver and intestinal damage.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Zionist Group Claims Responsibility

*LD2210130695 Tehran IRNA in English
1235 GMT 22 Oct 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Madrid, Oct. 22, IRNA—An unknown Zionist group has claimed responsibility for the terrorist attempt on the life of Iranian charge d'affaires to Argentina, Hassan 'Ali Rajabi Yazdi.

A man introducing himself as a member of the "Jewish community" in the Spanish speaking countries contacted IRNA office here claiming responsibility for the terrorist attack on the Iranian diplomat in Buenos Aires.

The Iranian charge d'affaires in Buenos Aires was shot on his way home in Buenos Aires Sunday by an unidentified gunmen and is currently under medical treatment in a Buenos Aires hospital.

The caller said that the terrorist attempt was a response to the bombing of the Jewish center in Buenos Aires last summer.

Immediately after the explosion of the Jewish center in Buenos Aires, the Tel Aviv regime and the U.S. in a concerted move accused Iran of being behind the explosion. The accusations later proved to be untrue and unfounded.

Political analysts said the terrorist attempt on the life of Iranian diplomat in Buenos Aires was a new move by the Zionist circles to revive their past abortive attempts to attribute the bombing of the Jewish center to Iran.

Iranian Diplomats' Security Heightened

*PA2210143195 Madrid EFE in Spanish
1314 GMT 22 Oct 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Oct (EFE)—The Argentina Government today ordered the reinforcement of security measures to protect the life of Iranian diplomats in the wake of an attack on Habban 'Ali Rajavi Yardi [name as received], charge d'affaires of that Islamic Republic in the capital last night.

Argentine Deputy Interior Minister Alberto Iribarne told the media that "all necessary security measures have been adopted" to prevent further attacks on other members of that foreign representation.

An unidentified person traveling on a motorcycle fired at Rajavi Yardi, who was wounded near the chest as he was driving a car in the company of his wife and two children in the Belgrano neighborhood of Buenos Aires.

The diplomat, who is the top official at the Iranian Embassy, underwent emergency surgery at a private hospital in the capital early today, and he is out to danger, according to unofficial medical reports.

The Argentine Interior Ministry issued a statement "repudiating" the attack and reported that it is not yet known whether this was an attack or a robbery attempt, because the victim has not yet spoken to judicial authorities.

Police sources, however, revealed that the unidentified person simply approached the diplomat's car on a motorcycle, fired at him, and fled at full speed.

Argentine President Carlos Menem told the local media from New York, where he is attending a UN General Assembly meeting, that he asked his personal doctors to place themselves at the disposal of Rajavi Yardi and his family.

Envoy Recovering After Surgery

*LD2210221995 Tehran IRNA in English
2210 GMT 22 Oct 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Oct. 22, IRNA—Iranian charge d'affaires to Buenos Aires Hasan-'Ali Rajabi Yazdi is said to be recovering from the injuries that he suffered in a terrorist attack against him last week.

Iranian Ambassador to Montevideo, Uruguay, Sarmadi-Rad on Sunday visited charge d'affaires of Iran who was convalescing after a surgical operation at a hospital in Buenos Aires upon the recommendation of the Iranian Foreign Minister, 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

The iranian ambassador to Montevideo said that Argentine Foreign Ministry officials were extremely concerned about the wounded Iranian diplomat and had offered every possible assistance to ensure his smooth recovery from his wounds.

Chile

Frei Leaves for New York 'Very Calm,' Says 'Law Prevails'

*PY2110031495 Madrid EFE in Spanish
0231 GMT 21 Oct 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Santiago, 20 Oct (EFE)—Chilean President Eduardo Frei said today that he is leaving the country "very calm" to go to New York to participate in the gathering of heads of state and government on the occasion of the UN 50th anniversary.

The president's trip takes place now, at a time when the entire country is expecting the outcome of General Manuel Contreras' transfer to a special prison near Santiago, after his departure from the Talcahuano naval hospital this afternoon. He has been staying in this hospital since 13 June 1995.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

I am leaving the country "very calm," the president said in response to a question, and added that it is clear that the law prevails in Chile.

President Frei said that Justice Minister Soledad Alvear will release the official report on the transfer of the former secret police chief of the former military regime "once the administrative process is completed."

The president declined to release further details, and added that he will release his opinion on the matter on Saturday in New York.

Frei left in company of his wife, Marta Larraechea, and Foreign Minister Jose Miguel Insulza. He will return to the country on Friday, 27 October. [passage omitted]

Imprisonment of General Manuel Contreras Viewed

Leaves Hospital

PY2110022195 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0142 GMT 21 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Santiago, 20 Oct (EFE)—A confusing situation was prevailing tonight in Chile concerning the transfer to a special prison of General Manuel Contreras, whose whereabouts are unknown.

Shortly past 2100 (0100 GMT), Justice Minister Soledad Alvear said that "there is a process under way, and it is about to conclude."

According to journalists' reports, the former secret police chief, sentenced to seven years' imprisonment for the murder of former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier in Washington, left for the Punta Peuco prison, 40 km north of Santiago, aboard a military plane that took off from the southern town of Talcahuano at approximately 1630 (2030 GMT).

Contreras' departure has prompted a great mobilization of the Chilean media and considerable speculation, given that official sources have thus far kept absolute silence throughout the entire day.

The top security operation to transfer the former Chilean secret police chief is in the hands of the Army in coordination with the prison police.

Moreover, the Talcahuano naval command, to which the hospital where Contreras has stayed since 13 June is subordinate, has stated that Contreras voluntarily asked to leave the hospital after having been discharged from the hospital by the doctors.

In Valparaiso, Navy Commander Jorge Martinez Busch stated that his institution did not participate in Contreras' transfer, and that his responsibility ended the moment the general left the hospital.

Enters Prison

PA2110124695 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0553 GMT 21 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Santiago de Chile, 21 Oct (EFE)—General Manuel Contreras, former secret police chief during Gen. Augusto Pinochet's regime, today Saturday entered a high security penitentiary to serve a seven-year sentence for organizing former Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier's assasination in Washington.

This information was confirmed by Justice Minister Soledad Alvear at a news conference during which she announced that Contreras had arrived at the Punta Peuco penitentiary at 0040 (0340 GMT).

Contreras, according to Alvear, left the Talcahuano hospital on Friday afternoon and was immediately given a medical examination upon his arrival at the penitentiary, to certify that he was in good health.

"The judicial resolution has thus been fulfilled, thus meeting the de jure state's inevitable demand," she said.

Alvear concluded that "by condemning this process, the government reaffirms its resolve to continue working toward reconciliation among the Chilean people."

The retired general left Talcahuano Naval Hospital, where he had stayed from 13 June, for his final destination at the special Punta Peuco penitentiary 40 km north of the capital.

Politicians React Positively

PA2110173595 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1557 GMT 21 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Santiago, 21 Oct (NOTIMEX)—Several political sectors agreed today that the imprisonment of retired General Manuel Contreras, who was sentenced to seven years in jail in the Letelier Case, confirmed the existence of a state of law in Chile.

Contreras, head of the now-extinct National Intelligence Directorate (DINA) of the (1973-1990) military regime, entered the special jail in Punta de Peuco early on Saturday morning. The jail is located 50 km north of Santiago.

Government Deputy Juan Pablo Letelier, son of the former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier who was murdered, declared to the media this Saturday that Contreras' admittance to the penitentiary made him aware that it had been a very long struggle. "My father was murdered 19 years ago. We feel that justice has finally been meted out once we got the criminal into jail. The feeling I have is that it is worth it to fight for

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

justice," he asserted. He added: "This experience shows that truth may take a long time; the same holds for justice, but it does come. It is well worth it to fight for justice."

Alejandro Foxley, president of the governmental Christian Democratic Party, observed: "What has happened shows that nobody is above the law in Chile." He added: "Our democratic institutions do work, and the period in our history in which people committed excesses and did not receive any punishment at all is over."

Andres Allamand, deputy and president of the opposition National Renewal Party, stated: "This has been the compliance of a judicial resolution." He continued: "It confirms that there is a true state of law in Chile and that no one escapes or is above the rulings of the courts of justice."

Ivan Moreira, deputy of the Independent Democratic Union, also in the opposition, asserted that the Armed Forces have never attempted to break the state of law and that Contreras used all legal tools to defend himself.

Senator Sergio Bitar of the governmental Party for Democracy observed that Contreras' imprisonment brings "great relief" to the country. This situation "opens a space for the needed tranquility to allow us to broach pending issues, such as constitutional reforms, human rights, and military issues," he added.

Gonzalo Martner, secretary general of the progovernment Socialist Party, said: "Sometimes justice takes a long time in coming but it does come. Everything returns to its normal course. Once the courts have judged and sentenced, citizens have to comply, regardless of who they are."

Attacks After Imprisonment Seen

PA2210185195 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1605 GMT 22 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Santiago, Chile, 22 Oct (EFE)—A series of actions involving explosives and attacks by alleged members of a terrorist group, which was believed to be extinct, have occurred in Santiago and other Chilean cities in the past hours, police sources reported today.

The sources attributed the attacks to the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR), which was among the groups that took up arms against the military regime (1973-1990) and failed to assassinate General Augusto Pinochet in 1986.

The attacks started immediately after Gen. Manuel Contreras, former chief of the military regime's secret police, was imprisoned, and thus, some political leaders did not rule out that groups linked to the old security services could be involved.

Last night a group of alleged FPMR members stormed into the facilities of Radio "Nina" in Santiago, and after subduing personnel, aired a proclamation in honor of two guerrilla leaders killed on 21 October 1988 during an armed confrontation.

In the proclamation, the alleged terrorists called on people to take action against the government of President Eduardo Frei, and they stated that the imprisonment of Contreras, who has started to serve his sentence for the assassination of Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier, is "insufficient."

The radio station is owned by retired Army Colonel Uros Domic, who said after the assault that he is surprised that officers who fought against terrorism are imprisoned while the extremists are free.

A bomb containing 150 grams of dynamite caused some damage to a government building in San Bernardo, 20 km south of Santiago.

The authors left pamphlets signed by the FPMR and bearing the slogan "no to impunity (...) we want punishment now."

Another bomb exploded early today at the headquarters of the rightist National Renewal Party (RN) in Quinta Normal Municipality of Santiago causing damage that the police described as "fairly considerable."

Another attack on the government building of Estacion Central Municipality, also in Santiago, was thwarted by a guard who discovered the bomb on the roof and threw it on the street where it exploded without causing any damage.

In this place the police reported finding pamphlets similar to those left in San Bernardo.

A private home in Cisterna Municipality, in southern Santiago, was attacked by two criminals who claimed to belong to the FPMR and to be collecting money to distribute among the poor.

After subduing the house occupants, the attackers stole jewelry valued at 1.5 million pesos ($3,300) and 82,000 pesos ($205) in cash as well as a revolver and the owner's car, in which they escaped.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Colombia

President Samper 'Pleased' With Clinton UN Speech

PA2210174695 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1725 GMT 22 Oct 95

[Report by Edgar Artunduaga from New York; from "The Midday Newscast"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Narino Palace spokesmen have just told Emisoras Caracol that President Ernesto Samper is pleased and has praised President Bill Clinton's speech because 90 or 95 percent of the speech had to do with the drug trafficking problem, which shows, according to the spokesmen, the U.S. Government's interest in a problem that doesn't just involve Colombia and other underdeveloped countries.

The spokesmen said the president was pleased with the speech because it was precisely the Colombian president who emphasized at the Nonaligned Movement's [NAM] summit in Cartagena the need for the drug trafficking problem to be solved by all, rich and poor, developed and underdeveloped countries. President Samper has a NAM mandate in this regard, which he will present to the United Nations on Tuesday, 24 October.

President Samper has, therefore, praised the speech and the categorical announcements made by President Clinton, who said the United States will face the laundering of dollars with greater firmness. Samper said the United Nations should start working on an international declaration to face this scourge, which has brought lots of headaches for the world.

U.S. Said To Place Conditions on Pallomari Questioning

PA2010170995 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Oct 95

[From "Caracol's 0600 to 0900" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] The United States made its authorization to Colombian prosecutors to officially interrogate Guillermo Pallomari, the alleged Cali Cartel finance chief, contingent upon keeping Attorney General Orlando Vasquez and his agents out of the proceedings and uninformed about what is included in the files.

In addition, the United States asked the Prosecutor General's Office that everything Pallomari testifies be registered as clear and irrefutable proof and that he not be subjected to cross-examination or confrontations.

If the Prosecutor General's Office agrees to these conditions, two faceless prosecutors handling Case 8,000 will be immediately flown to the United States so they can gather the information provided by the Chilean Pallomari.

It was reported that the Prosecutor General's Office warned that an Attorney General's Office agent must participate in the proceedings, because of a constitutional precept.

Justice Minister Discusses Court Ruling

PA2010145895 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Oct 95

[Telephone interview with Justice Minister Nestor Humberto Martinez Neira in Cartagena de Indias by Dario Arizmendi, Judith Sarmiento, and unidentified reporter in Santa Fe de Bogota; from "Caracol's 0600 to 0900" newscast—live]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Arizmendi] Good morning to you, Minister Martinez.

[Martinez] Good morning.

[Arizmendi] Did you foresee the possibility that the Constitutional Court could strike down the Internal Disturbance Decree?

[Martinez] From a legal standpoint, that was one possibility. The government's assessments are based on the fact that we had, we have, and will have the profound conviction that the causes that led to the issuance of the Internal Disturbance Decree existed and exist and are necessary to allow the government to defeat crime, make citizens safe again, and restore public order all over the country.

[Arizmendi] The Constitutional Court, through its spokesman Jose Gregorio Hernandez, has reaffirmed that the Internal Disturbance Decree is not the only instrument available to the executive to fight those offenses by common criminals and the armed rebels that have been afflicting the country for several decades.

[Martinez] I am not familiar with the Constitutional Court's statements, among other reasons because I have not seen its ruling. I believe the ruling is the instrument thorough which citizens can learn the views of the corporation. The fact remains that normal instruments have been inefficient, are inefficient, and seriously and highly limit the actions by the authorities. It suffices to cite a few examples. With the so-called regular instruments or regular legislation, criminals and bandits were on the loose in the streets; the people who were stalking our children, wives, night school students, who could not go to their universities, higher education centers, or high schools. With these measures alone, we have succeeded in putting a stop to impunity in Colombia for 40 days, in 40 days we again succeeded in showing the nation that

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

it was possible to restore the concept of justice. Over 3,500 criminals who were caught red-handed had to appear before judicial authorities and go to jail. The prison system has succeeded in restoring public order thanks to the implementation of the internal disturbance measures. Under other circumstances, that is, once the Court ruling enters into force... [pauses] the adverse effect on the prison system will be serious. And what about kidnappings? Thanks to these measures, which were barely in effect for 10 days regarding kidnappings, it was possible to release over 20 Colombians, something unheard of in the recent history of the war on kidnappings.

[Arizmendi] What will happen to those 3,500 offenders, many of whom have been sentenced already?

[Martinez] Since we are not familiar with the ruling, we do not know if it will be in effect henceforth or retroactively from the moment the state of internal disturbance was declared. If it is the latter, if the ruling enters into force from the moment the state of internal disturbance was declared, we will very likely have to watch the highly deplorable spectacle of the country's jails being opened so that 3,500 criminals can return to the mainstream of society and again take over the streets of Colombia. If that is not so, our problem will not be as serious although equally as critical. It would mean transferring the jurisdiction of the 3,500 persons who were caught red-handed embezzling, causing physical harm on citizens, or carrying out holdups, over to police inspectors. The police inspectors who would process the complaints may obviously issue a citation to these people and they would regain their freedom immediately.

[Reporter] Mr. Minister, the situation in Uraba is equally worrisome. You have admitted that a regular legislation would not allow the adoption of measures, such as the ones that were implemented already to curb the wave of violence in that region of the country.

[Martinez] Sure, that is a very clear example of how the regular legislation does now allow the authorities to restore public order in a region of the country like Uraba where public order is visibly disturbed. Only through the special measures allowed by the State of Internal Disturbance Decree, Law 137, can it be possible for the military and police authorities to act, ordering wiretapping, raids, ordering preventive arrests, without going through a whole prior legal procedure, which, in practice, prevents law and order from prevailing in that region of the country.

The state will really lose those instruments to maintain public order in Uraba. It is very regrettable, as the Military Forces and even the defense minister, stated, since the situation has created a structural bottleneck to restore public order in Uraba.

[Sarmiento] Without getting into a debate on the Court ruling, since the government abides by those rulings, just to be informed on legal matters, can the Constitutional Court take into consideration matters that are advisable or unadvisable to the country when it issues a ruling?

[Martinez] You are a keen lawyer and know that in the history of constitutional doctrine in Colombia there was a widespread and even traditional acceptance of—because the Republic's constitutional system demands it that way—of the fact that the president has the sole and exclusive authority to assess the situation of public order situation. I would say that following the 1991 Constitution, it is one of the few authorities that the so-called presidential regime—of which very little remains—has inherited in the state of law in Colombia. It is the president who assesses the public order situation; it is the president who has the obligation to use all constitutional means to guarantee Colombians a peaceful and calm coexistence.

That constitutional doctrine, however, has been modified. Under the current circumstances, it has reached the point that it has been totally modified, because it has allowed the top court on constitutional matters to assess the materiality [materialidad] of the decree declaring the state of internal disturbance. It has come to the point that it has questioned the president's judgment on government policy when he established that the existing serious circumstances perturbing public require issuing an internal disturbance decree.

In practice, and from a standpoint of the state of law, this begins to create a climate of a shared government between the executive and the judicial branches on keeping public order in the country.

[Arizmendi] Mr. Minister, finally, and thanking you for your contact with Cadena Caracol of Colombia, how do the political parties, the Liberal and Conservative parties that control the Congress, feel about turning into permanent laws the draft bills submitted by the government, and which stem precisely from the measures dictated under the state of internal disturbance?

[Martinez] Dario, it was very interesting to have participated in the meeting the day before yesterday in which all the political forces represented in the Congress—the Liberal Party, the Conservative Party, the Alliance for Colombia Movement [Movimiento Alianza por Colombia] and congress leadership expressed on behalf of the citizens, that for the first time the concepts of justice and order are being recovered through these measures, and

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

that it was very necessary to reestablish these decrees through permanent legislation. They have vowed to the government to work jointly and tirelessly so that they will become permanent laws within the shortest possible time, given the success they showed in their precarious existence of 40 days.

[Arizmendi] You have said that a climate of cogovernment [cogobierno] is beginning to be created in the country. Is the court cogoverning?

[Martinez] At the public order level. That is a topic on which, from the viewpoint of public rights, we are going to have to make an in-depth review in Colombia. What remains of the pseudo parliamentary presidential regime? What is our status in Colombia? There is very little left of the presidential regime. It no longer controls communications media, it no longer controls the handling of public, economic affairs. Autonomous state agencies have been created to regulate different aspects of public services. This was eminently the executive branch's—a responsibility of the political Colombian society that entrusted the president exclusively with the handling of public order. Apparently it has been questioned within the new jurisprudence circles. It will be necessary to study it carefully in order to see what is in store for the future of the country in which jurisdictions are beginning to be diluted and to be shared among all the state organizations and branches.

[Arizmendi] Mr. Justice Minister Nestor Humberto Martinez, thank you for being with us this morning.

Executive Asks Congress To Pass Internal Disturbance Law

PA2110194995 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Canal A Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Oct 95

[From the "Cripton Newscast"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The government has urgently requested that Congress pass the bill that would legalize the measures dictated in the internal disturbance situation, which the court declared unconstitutional. When the court ruled that the internal disturbance situation was illegal, the government had no other choice but to go to the Congress of the Republic; it is its only and last hope.

In the first place, the executive requests the legalization of a bill that includes measures that will allow it to strengthen actions against kidnapings and extortion which, according to statistics, have increased throughout the country.

Second, it clearly establishes measures to fight the narco-guerillas which, according to the government, have received their main economic resources from kidnapping actions and from harvesting and marketing drug crops.

Third are the measures to combat organized crime and illegal enrichment obtained from criminal activity and to make the judicial system more agile and effective.

Fourth, it assigns more technical and personnel resources to organizations in charge of fighting criminal bands, establishes (?Dobla) groups of [word indistinct] action to combat kidnappings, and gives more economic resources to the government so that it can give rewards for information leading to the arrest of criminals.

Fifth, it legally establishes that employers of firms, which have economic stability, are obliged to continue paying the wages to workers who have been kidnaped.

Valdivieso Admits Difference With Attorney General's Office

PA2110030295 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Canal A Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Oct 95

[From the "Seven O'Clock Newscast"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Prosecutor General Alfonso Valdivieso has admitted that there are differences with the Attorney General's Office.

[Unidentified reporter] Even though the prosecutor general has never admitted it publicly, on 20 October Valdivieso surprisingly said that there have been confrontations between the Attorney General's Office and the Prosecutor General's Office.

[Begin Valdivieso recording] As the prosecutors who are aware of certain cases have said, there has been an action that, I would say, at some time seemed to have been an obstacle. [end recording]

[Reporter] It seems that the last straw was the Attorney General's Office's refusal to grant house arrest to Santiago Medina for his involvement in Case 8000. This option was viable for the Prosecutor General's Office.

[Begin recording] [Reporter, in progress] ...a concept by the Attorney General's Office as pressure the Prosecutor General's Office exerted on Case 8000?

[Valdivieso] I would not like to say that this is the interpretation. It seems to me that it would not be advisable, from any standpoint, to use certain concepts to obstruct justice. [end recording]

[Reporter] The Prosecutor General's Office has several records showing an excessive intervention by the Attorney General's Office, including two proceedings against

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Assistant Prosecutor General Adolfo Salamanca, its petition to reveal the identity of the faceless judges handling Case 8000, and even the use of 16 Attorney General's Office agents in one day to go over one single process.

Cali Cartel Reportedly Executed Covert DEA Agent, Wife

PA2210191195 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1803 GMT 22 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] San Jose, 22 Oct (NOTIMEX)—Costa Rican Antonio Danilo Carmona Ocampo, a covert DEA agent, and his wife Emilia Fallas were reportedly murdered by the Cali Cartel, local media have reported.

The Costa Rican newspaper, LA NACION, stated on Sunday, 22 October, that DEA investigations point in the direction of a homicide by the Colombian drug mafia when it found out about the operations conducted by Carmona, who was on a special DEA mission.

The Costa Rican couple disappeared in 1994 in Colombia while paying a three-day visit to that country.

The newspaper pointed out that a brother of Carmona Ocampo said the DEA has firm clues about the alleged execution of the couple in Valle del Cauca Department, Colombia, on a property owned by the drug traffickers.

Since their disappearance, the Costa Rican authorities have been looking for the couple in Panama, because of the existence of records of their departure to that country on 21 August 1994.

The search for Carmona and his wife is part of a DEA operation to find some 40 other persons, who could have been executed by the narco-mafia, LA NACION stated.

The newspaper added that the search is based on statements made by the chief accountant of the Cali Cartel, Guillermo Pallomari, who turned himself in to the DEA two months ago and apparently identified the Costa Rican couple as mortal victims of the illegal organization.

Ecuador

Opposition Requests 'Criminal Action' Against Duran-Ballen

PY2110014495 Quito Voz de Los Andes in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Ecuadoran opposition is threatening to open another chapter in the serious political crisis in the country by requesting a criminal action against President Sixto Duran-Ballen for obstructing justice.

While the country was breathing at ease after the designation of the new vice president, the Ecuadoran opposition Roldist Party [PRE] has asked the Supreme Court of Justice [CSJ] to extend to President Duran-Ballen the criminal action opened against former Vice President Alberto Dahik.

PRE Deputy Oscar Celleri has asked CSJ President Carlos Solorzano to extend a trial to include the president of the Republic and to order his preventive arrest because he has committed unconstitutional meddling in the administration of justice.

Duran-Ballen is accused of concealing evidence in the criminal action against Dahik as a result of the issuing of a decree which makes him the sole guardian of the microfilms containing the secret accounts of the Vice Presidency. This decree has twice prevented the analysis of the content of the microfilms, which shows Duran-Ballen's interest in preventing procedural actions, according to Celleri. CSJ President Solorzano said he will study the petition.

In the event the Supreme Court decides to file a suit against Duran-Ballen, Ecuador will reportedly lose the relative calm it has gained after the designation of the new vice president. Several sectors have expressed optimism, and added that the designation of the new vice president could alleviate the crisis. Administration Secretary Carlos Larreategui has said that this has again created an environment of normalcy in the country's democratic institutions, and with it we would definitely end the political crisis.

The Ecuadoran president could also face an impeachment process by the national Congress. The president's situation is increasingly more complicated. Democratic People's Movement Deputy Juan Jose Castelo has said that in the Flores-Miel case he has contributed by allowing the escape of his grandson-in-law, and then the escape of Alberto Dahik, and now he is the guardian of the microfilms of the Vice Presidency. [passage omitted]

Colonel Declares Duran-Ballen Decree on Documents Illegal

PY2110021995 Quito Voz de Los Andes in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Quito—Colonel Jorge Cevallos, former member of the National Security Council [CSN], said today that President Sixto Duran-Ballen's decree, by which he proclaimed himself sole guardian of the documents which contain details of the use of public discretionary funds from the Vice Presidency, is illegal.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Representing the Armed Forces Mobilization Board, from which he recently resigned, Cevallos minimized Duran-Ballen's authority to unilaterally declare these documents secret, which prevents the courts from using it in the criminal action opened against former Vice President Alberto Dahik.

The president's decree is absolutely illegal, he said. Duran-Ballen issued this decree two weeks ago, when Supreme Court of Justice [CSJ] President Carlos Solorzano, who is also a member of the CSN, announced that he would review the documents.

Col. Cevallos added that the president's decree is absolutely illegal. He added that Duran-Ballen cannot unilaterally declare these documents secret and cannot veto judicial access to documents that concern national security.

To take an initiative of this nature, he must first consult with and inform the CSN, which comprises the heads of the three government branches and several military commanders, among others, the colonel said.

He added: Duran-Ballen cannot establish by himself the national security policy, but must be advised by the Armed Forces joint command, which must also be aware of this policy. The CSN must oversee what the former vice president had been doing because Dahik is not the Lone Ranger who conducts national security in the Republic, he said. What Duran-Ballen must do is call the CSN to deal with the use of funds assigned to the Vice Presidency, and then each government branch head must issue a message to the nation to inform the people.

Concerning the fate of public funds that were again used as discretionary funds, he said that Ecuadoran law establishes that they are to guarantee the country's internal and external security, unlike what Dahik had said. Dahik had stated that there are many payments that can be recorded as such.

The colonel added that the national security concept is clearly established in the laws: wars, great natural catastrophes, and serious internal disturbances. Any other expenditure not intended to solve these problems is illegal. And this is what is happening, he said. He added that the laws establish that national security policy does not admit personal initiatives. In that context, he said that the prevailing idea is that the former vice president, by his own initiative, has been carrying out actions involving national security with 20 billion sucres, that is, some $8 million, and that is absurd. It gives the idea that there is a desire to conceal something, and the president cannot conceal possible irregularities, but must allow the CSJ to have access to the relevant documents, Cevallos said.

Attorney General Says Dahik's Extradition 'Possible'

PY2010161395 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0027 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Quito, 19 Oct (EFE)—Ecuadoran Attorney General Fernando Casares said today that the extradition of former Vice President Alberto Dahik is possible. Dahik sought political asylum in Costa Rica on 18 October where he fled after an arrest warrant against him was issued.

Casares told the media that although Ecuador and Costa Rica do not have an extradition agreement, it is feasible through the "international reciprocity" mechanism.

He said that the absence of an agreement "could hinder negotiations and the consequences of the extradition," but under "international relations" the two countries "can resort to the so-called international reciprocity."

He added that this would not be the first time Ecuador has used this method and explained that it consists of "using the sovereignty of each country, one handing over to the other the person mentioned in the penal trial."

He said, first "we must wait for the Costa Rican Government's decision because I understand that Dahik has or will submit the necessary documents so that the government may decide if he can remain in that country." [passage omitted]

New Vice President's Background, Future Role Viewed

PY2010160395 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0305 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Quito, 19 Oct (EFE)—Eduardo Pena Trivino, the new Ecuadoran vice president, was sworn in today. He appears as the future leader of the government's social front, unlike his predecessor Alberto Dahik who is seen as the "architect" of Sixto Duran-Ballen government's neoliberal economic program.

During his swearing in speech, Pena Trivino, 57, said he accepted the post and will give priority to the government's social aspects. He said he will especially endorse actions of the Health, Housing, Public Works, and Education Ministries.

Analyst Alberto Acosta believes the choice of Pena Trivino, who was proposed to the deputies by Duran-Ballen, confirms that "the macroeconomic policy" will

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

remain in the hands of those who, until a week ago, followed the orders of Dahik who fled and requested political asylum in Costa Rica after a warrant of arrest was issued against him on charges of alleged embezzlement of public funds.

Acosta said: "A person who will not rock the macroeconomic model has been chosen," after noting that Dahik left within the cabinet an economic front (energy, commerce, finance ministries and other monetary organizations) of officials who enjoy his full confidence and who are loyal to his model.

Pena Trivino will not have such a significant role in this field and most people believe he will play the traditional role of a vice president (to design development policies and stand in for the president when temporarily or definitely absent), a role which Dahik fully surpassed to the point of being considered a true leader.

The administration of Duran-Ballen and Pena Trivino will end on 10 August 1996.

The new vice president left the Education and Culture Ministry in 1993, shortly before Congress threatened to impeach him for poor administration.

Deputy Ivan Rodriguez of the Popular Democratic Movement (MDP, leftist), one of the legislators who did not vote for the new vice president because he considers him "the candidate of corruption," said: "The teachers kicked him out."

Referring to his time as education and culture minister, analysts, observers, and commentators all mention the two-month strike against him by the teachers association which coincided with his exit from the ministry.

Acosta believes this strike confirmed that Pena "did not show the capacity for dialogue and agreement," adding that he "is not capable of proposing innovating ideas, and, therefore, there will be no great changes. He might try to make the social aspect more rational seeking to end this administration in a less drastic manner."

Acosta and other personalities recalled that during his time at the ministry, Pena Trivino authorized the demolition of a house that belonged to historian Jose Gabriel Navarro, which was considered part of Ecuadoran patrimony.

He said that at that time it was also reported that "relatives of the president of the Republic belonged to the board of directors" of the enterprise that owned the property. The enterprise also wanted to construct new buildings there.

The new vice president, who has a PhD and majored in jurisprudence, is a lawyer and has a degree in social science. Between 1970 and 1972, he was dean of the Philosophy School of the Catholic University of Guayaquil, where he was born, and shortly after became vice chancellor of that university.

Between 1973 and 1975 he became a member of the Guayaquil city hall and on several occasions acted as mayor of this port, the most populated and economically active Ecuadoran port.

Pena Trivino became president of the Latin American Reinsurance Association (ARELA), manager of the Ecuadoran Reinsurance Company, president of the Ecuadoran Insurance Law Association, a columnist, and a member of the Editors' Council of EL TELEGRAFO, the oldest Ecuadoran newspaper.

'Uncertainty Prevails' in Financial Markets After Crisis

PY2010172395 Madrid EFE in Spanish
2315 GMT 19 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Quito, 19 Oct (EFE)—Uncertainty prevails in the Ecuadoran markets. The stock exchange dropped again in view of the possibility that President Sixto Duran-Ballen may be tried by the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ), although the financial sector reacted favorably to the election of the new vice president.

Fidel Jaramillo, director of the macroeconomic consultant enterprise Multimedia, told EFE that the political crisis in Ecuador "has not ended, there is still a chance that CSJ Chairman Carlos Solorzano will indict Duran-Ballen. This is the risk or element of uncertainty the markets fear." [passage omitted]

The financial markets reacted favorably to the election by Congress of Eduardo Pena as Alberto Dahik's successor. He was sworn in today just as the dollar exchange showed a tendency to drop.

The dollar rate dropped from 2,670 sucres yesterday to 2,664 sucres today, thus keeping at a prudent distance from the ceiling of the official exchange rate band. The Central Bank has thus not been forced to offer more foreign currency on the market.

Jaramillo added that interest rates also showed a tendency to drop when "yesterday, due to the Central Bank's need to adopt measures to protect the sucre, it closed at 58 percent while today it is already down to 45 percent."

The expert said that although the interest rate has dropped, "it has remained high for a long time," and "has strongly affected the productive sector. Many companies will be unable to pay their debts and this will affect the financial system." [passage omitted]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Armed Forces Sue Lawmaker Over Charges

PY2010212095 Madrid EFE in Spanish
0225 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Quito, 19 Oct (EFE)—The Ecuadoran Armed Forces today sued independent Deputy Fernando Larrea in a military court for "seriously offending the institution," because the lawmaker had reported that rejected equipment had been purchased as if it were standard materiel.

Local news media reported that a criminal judge of the First Military Zone opened the case at the request of the Armed Forces high command and the Plenum of the Armed Forces Council of Admirals and Generals.

The news media added that plaintiffs submitted to a military court—in view of the state of national emergency that has been in effect since January 1995—a recording of the deputy's public remarks directly accusing Army Commander in Chief General Paco Moncayo.

Deputy Larrea has stated that the remarks on the tape have been misinterpreted, adding that he merely announced that he is investigating alleged military irregularities, which he did not specify, and that he is considering the possibility of summoning the Armed Forces high command to Congress.

Several military commanders have stated that they are not afraid of any congressional investigation, and that the military court could ask Congress to strip Deputy Larrea of his congressional immunity.

Gen. Moncayo and Defense Minister General Alfonso Alarcon have stated that despite the political crisis prompted by the criminal lawsuit against and the impeachment of former Vice President Alberto Dahik, who resigned last week and sought shelter in Costa Rica, the possibility of a coup d'etat was never under consideration. [passage omitted]

Gustavo Ortega Appointed Ambassador to Belgium

PY1910234495 Madrid EFE in Spanish
1910 GMT 19 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Quito, 19 Oct (EFE)—Gustavo Ortega, superintendent of companies, has submitted his resignation to the unicameral Congress of Ecuador in order to assume as Ecuadoran Ambassador to Belgium next week.

Today Ortega said: "I have submitted my irrevocable resignation as superintendent of companies and president of the National Securities Council and have accepted the post as plenipotentiary ambassador before the Kingdom of Belgium, the EU, and the Grand Duchy of of Luxembourg."

Ortega will travel to Belgium on Sunday, 22, and will present his letter of credentials on Thursday, 26.

Moreover, the Ecuadoran Congress today will name the replacement of Ricardo Munoz as head of the Banks Superintendency.

Munoz resigned recently, after the president of the Supreme Court of Justice, Carlos Solorzano, issued a warrant of preventive custody against him—which has since been canceled—for allegedly interfering in the penal trial on charges of alleged corruption against former Vice President Alberto Dahik.

Peru

Fujimori: Peace Achieved Without Foreign Participation

PY2010213895 Madrid EFE in Spanish
0015 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Lima, 19 Oct (EFE)—Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori stated today that Peru has achieved peace without the intervention or support of any international organization and "thanks to the cooperation of all Peruvians."

Speaking before representatives of the International Red Cross in the Peruvian department of Ayacucho, Fujimori said that "only when the direct presence of terrorism was perceived in other parts of the world did people become scared and hurt because their blood was also shed."

"Do not believe that the country's pacification has been achieved with international participation or the technical cooperation of some country," the president told townspeople from Colca, Ayacucho, a former focus of Shining Path's subversive insurgence.

Fujimori lamented the fact that when Peru was suffering the violent subversive actions and the blood of Peruvians was being shed, no foreign organization considered the seriousness of the problem.

"The people have achieved the pacification in Peru, and no one should take that merit away from them," he said, and expressed thanks for the courage of the Peruvians, particularly the peasant defense patrols (that comprise armed townspeople.)

For more than 10 years, from May 1980, Peru has been the stage of subversive violence headed by Shining Path and the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA), in a war for power that caused the death of more than 30,000 people.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Thus, Fujimori urged all the Peruvian people to defend themselves, and to make their human rights always prevail.

Fujimori also announced that the government will continue supporting the correction of errors that may have been committed in the fight to pacify the country.

The government policy is to leave the doors open to the International Red Cross (IRC) so as to correct any type of irregularities in the judicial processes involving those found guilty for terrorism, the Peruvian president said.

Fujimori made these remarks after dedicating a 1,700-meter tunnel in the district of Colca. Present at the ceremony were political officials; IRC President George Conminos; and Francis Amar, representative of the IRC for Latin America.

APRA Command Chief Resigns for 'Lack of Support'

PY2010212295 Madrid EFE in Spanish
0314 GMT 20 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Lima, 19 Oct (EFE)—German Parra Herrera, Action Command chief of the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance (APRA), today resigned from his post, to which he was designated to reorganize the Peruvian party, after stating that "it keeps sinking in the worst crisis of its history."

A few months ago, Parra was designated chief of APRA, the party that took former President Alan Garcia to power. Alan Garcia is currently accused of corruption, after the party fell into a crisis caused by the anarchy and mass desertion of its members.

Parra based his decision "on the lack of support and negative attitude of other members to face the crisis that is adversely affecting our party." [passage omitted]

Officers Accused in Barrios Altos Case Benefit From Amnesty

PY2110014995 Madrid EFE in Spanish
0221 GMT 19 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Lima, 18 Oct (EFE)—After imposing the Amnesty Law, the Peruvian Superior Criminal Court today definitely pigeonholed the case of five military officers accused of murdering 15 people in 1991 in the Lima neighborhood of Barrios Altos.

Division General Julio Salazar Monroe, Major Santiago Martin Rivas, and noncommissioned officers Nelson Carbajal Garcia, Juan Sosa Saavedra, and Hugo Coral Goycochea have thus been given their definite freedom. Before the approval of this law, these officers had been sentenced to prison terms ranging from 15 to 20 years.

This resolution was issued by the Superior Criminal Court, which is chaired by Pedro Iberico Mas. The other justices of this court are Alipio Montes, Luis Almenara, Manuel Sanchez, and Hugo Sivina. The ruling was issued after a Peruvian judge refused to grant amnesty to this group of military officers on the basis of the opinion that the amnesty law was "not applicable" in this case. [passage omitted]

The manslaughter in Barrios Altos, a neighborhood outside the Lima downtown area, took place in November 1991, when a group of military officers raided a house and fired at the people who were attending a meeting. These people were accused at the time of being presumed members of the Shining Path Maoist gang.

Suspension of Tourist Visa Requirement for 94 Countries

PY2110015495 Madrid EFE in Spanish
1942 GMT 19 Oct 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Lima, 19 Oct (EFE)—The Peruvian Government has eliminated the visa requirement for tourists of 94 countries with the purpose of promoting tourism development in this Andean country, which expects to receive half a million visitors this year.

This suspension of the visa requirement is granted for a maximum of 90 days and is extended also to visitors who arrive in Peru for business reasons, according to a decree published today in the legal supplement of the daily gazette EL PERUANO.

In Latin America this benefit is granted to tourists from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Guyana, Mexico, Paraguay, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

In North America to Canada and the United States, and in Europe to Germany, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Spain, Finland, France, Great Britain, Greece, Northern Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Norway, the Netherlands, Portugal, San Marino, the Holy See, Sweden, and Switzerland.

This measure also affects tourists from Brunei, the Philippines, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, South Korea, Singapore, and Thailand, as well as visitors from Australia, New Zealand, New Guinea, Samoa, the Marshall Islands, and 10 other island states of Oceania.

In the case of citizens from Taiwan and Hong Kong, it was decided that they will not need either a tourist or transit visa to enter Peru.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Uruguay

Editorial Views Outcome of Castro's Visit

PY2010142995 Montevideo EL OBSERVADOR in Spanish 16 Oct 95 p 2

[Editorial: "A Provisional Assessment of a Controversial Visit"]

[FBIS Translated Text] While [Uruguayan President Julio Maria] Sanguinetti and [Cuban President Fidel] Castro are enjoying the scenery of Bariloche it is appropriate to make a provisional balance (the final balance will be made by history when the impact of the visit on Uruguayan and Cuban internal affairs can be observed) of the visit by the Cuban chief of state to our country which, at the time, generated controversy and prompted changes in protocol to avoid hurting people's feelings. In the end, the protocol for Castro's reception at the airport was very mundane and austere.

First, we believe it is significant to highlight the firmness of the proposals that Sanguinetti made to his Cuban colleague. He very clearly pointed out the differences between the political systems of the two countries (which is important when Fidel, and indeed quite a few representatives of the Uruguayan left, continues to believe there is democracy and freedom in Cuba) and urged the Cuban dictator to begin a new stage in the dialogue that will end the isolation that Cubans so stoically suffer (not just because of the U.S. economic blockade, but also because of the political blockade that Castro has strictly imposed and which he apparently does not want to lift). Only time will tell if Fidel paid any attention to Sanguinetti's words. More could not have been done.

Second, we Uruguayans had the opportunity to see and hear a genuine Marxist who inflexibly defends the socialist model and who admits that his only error was that of not foreseeing the disintegration of socialism. That was truly an important error: More than truly, it was a decisive mistake because the fall of socialism (a system that, through its denial of private property and materialist roots, goes against human nature and is thus impossible to maintain over a period of time—and only then through the use of force) was inevitable and perfectly foreseeable, just as the fall of Cuban socialism is foreseeable during or after Castro. Perhaps this is why Castro opened the door just a crack to indicate that the changes everyone demands will be implemented "during another generation." We can only wait for this to happen.

A third point, although very difficult to evaluate, is the effect of this visit on the internal Uruguayan situation. Sanguinetti may have baffled many supporters of the left who did not expect this gesture from, the person who—according to Tabare [Progressive Encounter leader Tabare Vazquez]—is its worst enemy. Some government coalition sectors, which consider this invitation inopportune, may also have been baffled. Only time will tell who obtained the most internal benefit from this visit.

We believe the provisional balance is uncertain. In light of Cuba's economic and political situation, this visit could herald a lifting of the blockade at the international level, especially as Clinton is seeking rapprochement with the Cuban regime. While Fidel seems aware of the failure of his system, he is still not as willing to change it—much to his sorrow—as China or Vietnam. This makes the integration of Cuba with the world even more difficult. Sanguinetti seems to have obtained his objective—but more internationally than domestically. Another point that is not without importance, is that we have had the chance to observe a relic of history—a history that we do not want to experience.

Venezuela

Caldera Calls For Institutions To Play Proper Roles

PA2110231595 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 17 Oct 95 p D4

[Report by Rafael Nunez]

[FBIS Translated Text] As an advance report on what could be his response to the National Congress, President Rafael Caldera said in his speech before Navy admirals and officers that each of the country's institutions should play the role that democratic order and the consciences of their members impose on them.

Yesterday, people in the presidency shared the general expectation about Caldera's probable response to the Congress' proposal to create three working commissions to study possible solutions of the crisis. In his office, Caldera received reports from Finance Minister Luis Raul Matos Azocar, who arrived in the building ahead of Caldera, according to presidency sources.

As for Caldera's letter, it was reported that he worked on it over the weekend. According to consulted sources, he does not refuse to talk with the deputies, but his ministers and advisers recommended that he study the proposal carefully before making any decision. Everyone agrees that Congress' invitation is very suspicious because it has been made precisely at a time when the government has succeeded in gaining access to IMF.

Caldera has considered the matter carefully. Since last week, he had prepared the reply he will present to the Congress proposal. According to the official spokesman

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

and head of the Central Information Office, he would give his reply to Congress some time this week.

On Friday, Caldera talked with Navy admirals and officers during the closure of the Navy's 10th meeting. In his speech, Caldera gave an advance of his response to Congress saying every institution plays a role already determined in the democratic order.

Specifically, Caldera told the Navy officers he is sure "we all share a single will, a will firm in solidarity to move the country ahead and maintain our institutions, which we must strengthen so each of them can play the role that democratic order and the consciences of their members imposes on them."

He also said that the country's goal is to march forward. "Our goal is to create possibilities to produce and prosper in a climate of freedom and confidence in the democratic institutions. Venezuela is a country with sufficient resources to live healthily and in justice. For this reason, we must face and defeat the causes that have created adverse situations, which disagree with the country's potential."

Caldera Views Exchange Control, Media 'Errors'

PA2110135195 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 18 Oct 95

[Report by Pedro Prado; from "The News" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The flexibility in the exchange control and reports on the devaluation of the bolivar have exerted pressure to reduce international reserves.

[Pedro Prado] This was stated by President Rafael Caldera at the installation ceremony of the 51st Assembly of the Inter-American Press Association. President Caldera believes the exchange administrators have avoided setting priorities, and despite the low levels registered in the price of crude oil, Venezuela can offer guarantees.

[Begin Caldera recording] Despite these circumstances, Venezuela can guarantee the necessary resources to local and foreign investors, importers of basic staples, and industrialists who import raw materials so that they may continue their production. [end recording]

[Prado] Referring to the media's influence on the crisis, President Caldera remarked that one must keep in mind that this crisis has its roots in the crash of the banking sector, which led to imposing an exchange control.

[Begin Caldera recording] We always said—and we have reiterated it—that the exchange control would be a temporary measure. It will be a happy day for us when the exchange control is removed. [Words indistinct] If we were forced to assume the responsibility for imposing this control, it was because we had no other choice. The facts have confirmed that this was the best possible mechanism to maintain the necessary foreign exchange for our commercial transactions. [end recording]

[Prado] President Caldera believes freedom of the press is the best corrective for errors made by the media, and this is why corrections are necessary.

[Begin Caldera recording] Venezuelans must become used to accomplishing our objectives within the framework of the constitutional norms. We must reform the Constitution in the sense of broadening and modernizing it, giving more participation to the popular sectors, and giving more attention to the problem of the administration of justice, which is one of the most serious problems not only in Venezuela, but perhaps in all the countries of the world. [end recording] [passage omitted]

President Caldera Replies to Congress Letter

PA2210011095 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL In Spanish 19 Oct 95 p 1-12

[Text of letter by President Rafael Caldera to the president and vice president of Congress; date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] Citizens Eduardo Gomez Tamayo and Carmelo Lauria Lesseur, president and vice president of Congress;

I have considered with due attention the letter you sent me on 10 October to inform me of a proposal made by the Congress Bicameral Commission on "the appointment of three working teams that will act as amalgamating cores for all those who feel compelled to help overcome one of the most complex crises the Republic has experienced."

I must assess that the objective that inspires you, as was expressed in your aforementioned letter, is "to carry to an extreme the cooperation among the public branches to resolve the major national problems, into which all Venezuelan sectors must incorporate themselves." It is undoubtedly a noble objective, with which the government I am presiding over fully agrees. I am convinced that social solidarity and the cooperation of public branches—each one within the specific duties the Constitutions assigns to it—are essential requirements and a basic factor to guarantee the resolution of the serious problems the country is facing, including the gigantic crisis of the financial sector, the consequences of which are still being felt and will continue to cause difficulties to fully regain normalcy.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Moved by a desire support the effort to establish a fruitful dialogue, I view the Congress proposal as a possible effective step toward the adoption of urgent measures that the present situation requires. If the current Venezuelan situation demands from all of us a willingness to reach agreements, this demand is especially strong for those of us who received a mandate from the people to lead the country, to reach the agreements that necessary to serve them within the democratic plurality that characterized the electoral results of 5 December 1993.

Inspired by this, the members of the national Executive Branch feel that it is pertinent to make the following comments regarding the three "working teams" proposed in your letter:

As for the first team: As head of state and government I am permanently willing, with the power [asistencia] that the Constitution entrusted on the ministers, to hear out all citizens who are willing to help analyze and tackle national problems. It will be particularly pleasant for me to meet with as many representatives of the legislative corps as it is advisable to listen to their observations and recommendations "regarding economic, social, and institutional issues" and to the details of the "structural changes" that they deem "are demanded by the current situation facing the country." The government's economic policy is extensively and precisely specified in the Ninth Plan of the Nation and in the Venezuelan Agenda [Agenda Venezuela], which reflects the current situation and was presented to multinational financial organizations. We are willing to listen to the proposals regarding this policy that legislative bodies might have and to examine viable solutions that might be the most advisable for collective interests within our social reality and in keeping with the right to be heard that various segments of national life have.

As for the second team: The members of the economic cabinet and their best aides, whom I will immediately appoint, are in the best disposition to meet with the chairmen of the Standing Commissions on Finance and on the Economy of the Senate and of the Chamber of Deputies—as well as with as many congressmen as necessary—to work on legislative and administrative measures pertaining to the two branches and that are most urgent for the nation.

Specifically, we must promote without delay, the discussion of the 1996 budget bill, because if it is not approved by the deadline specified by law, we would have to revive [reconducir] the 1995 budget. We do not want this to occur but it would be inevitable because it is mandated by law.

As for the third team: We consider this a call for immediate efforts to reach a consensus on the best drafts and to expedite approval of bills that the situation is demanding before legislative sessions close in 1995.

We think that an agreement to reform the Constitution is imperative because of the urgent nature that is inherent to it. We must use this to open new paths for participative democracy through consultation [referendarias] formulas and to discuss without delays the institutional recovery of the administration of justice and other structural reforms that serve as a frame for others.

Reaching a consensus on social security and social benefits, on education in general and higher education in particular, on creation of the Fund to Rescue [de rescate] the Foreign Debt, on reform of the Income Tax Law to reach an equitable settlement on the preferential treatment that the agricultural sector wants, on reform of the Sales Tax to promote new investments and ease the fiscal deficit, on reform of the Customs Law, on the small but important modifications required by the Tax Code and the new Comptroller's Law, on creation of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and of the Foreign Trade Bank, on the Basic Law for Mining Development, on the Law on Casinos and Gambling, on the partial reform required to make the privatization process feasible, and on the Public Credit Law that is needed to meet the urgent needs of the treasury require immediate joint work in which we trust. This work is in keeping with the spirit of dialogue and cooperation that inspired your letter.

It is, of course, understandable that for these tasks not only one working team is required and the various teams could be immediately established. This would be the best demonstration of the sincerity that characterizes us.

I hope that the political will to serve common interests will lead to the adoption of the solutions that the current Venezuelan situation is demanding.

Very attentively,

[Signed] Rafael Caldera.

Political Blocs React to Letter

PA2110234695 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 19 Oct 95

[Report by Fernando Porta from "The News" newscast; passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] President Rafael Caldera sent a letter to the leaders of the National Congress on the decision adopted by the Executive Branch to constitute work teams to find solutions to the serious problems being faced by the country.

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

In the letter, President Caldera agrees with the recommendation made by Congress as long as each branch acts within the limits of the specific functions established by the Constitution. Three points are key to the Executive Branch regarding the matter being discussed. First, the government is willing to look into and listen to everything, as well as receive the representatives of the Legislative Branch to listen to their observations regarding economic matters. Second, the heads of the financial organizations and their collaborators are authorized to hold meetings with the presidents of the permanent finances and economy commissions of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. It is noted that the discussion of the 1996 budget bill must be conducted without delay, particularly, because the government does not want an extension. Third, it is imperative to reach an agreement on constitutional reform, the creation of a rescue fund for the foreign debt, and the reform of the income tax law, the sales tax law, and the privatization law.

A portion of the conclusion of this letter sent by President Caldera in response to Congress indicates the following: It is certainly understandable that one single work group is not enough for these matters. The various teams could be formed immediately, and this would constitute the best sign of our sincere intentions.

However, the Executive Branch's answer to the congressional proposal triggered conflicting views among the different political blocs.

Last 10 October, a commission made up of Carmelo Lauria, president of the Chamber of Deputies, and Congress President Eduardo Gomez Tamayo, as well as other congressmen handed President Caldera a proposal to form three commissions with specific duties to cooperate with the government. Eight days later, after the proposal was reviewed, President Caldera answered via a written communique.

[Gomez] "The decision will be adopted once we review the text with the various parties involved, including the president of the Chamber of deputies and the heads of the blocs."

[Lauria] "I believe this past month has proved that we, Venezuelans, can resolve the serious and complex crisis being faced by the country in democracy and through a dialogue."

The Movement toward Socialism [MAS] stated that the terms of President Caldera's letter are satisfactory.

[MAS President Gustavo Marquez] "I believe it is very positive that the president acknowledges the need for this interaction between Congress and the government, and this willingness to find a formula that will enable the country to overcome t crisis."

Convergence, represented by Jose Miguel Uzcategui, believes there is a genuine willingness to dialogue on the part of the government.

[Uzcategui] "The government wants to continue talks, but it does not want to increase the number of commissions. That eagerness to constitute many commissions and what not is not appropriate."

[Alcibiades Castro, Copei bloc president] "The Social Christian Party [Copei] and Radical Cause believe the government's answer does not meet the expectations. President Caldera is not responding to the initiative of Congress and Copei that demonstrates their willingness to cooperate."

[Jesus Pares, Radical Cause deputy] "What the president has done is very brilliant. He said yes and no to the proposal made by the Bicameral Commission. He said yes because he is affected by the discussion of some points made by the Bicameral Commission, and he said no because economic policy is drafted by the president of the Republic."

The leaders of Congress are expected in the next few hours to define ideas, analyses, and studies to respond to the national government everything that is happening with the appointment or the proposal of some commissions to help and assist the national government.

Government To Request More Aid To Fight Drugs

PA2110173795 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 17 Oct 95 p A6

[Report by Gioconda Soto]

[FBIS Translated Text] In view of Colombia's success in its struggle against drug trafficking, Venezuela fears it will become the new site for drugs, and, thus, is asking the United States to increase its financial aid. The proposal was made by Justice Minister Ruben Creixems when he was leaving a meeting with his Colombian counterpart, Nestor Humberto Martinez, at the Yellow House [Foreign Ministry headquarters] yesterday.

Creixems and the Colombian minister signed a declaration of intent in which both countries established the bases for a future agreement to counter the contraband of chemical precursors, which are used by the drug traffickers.

The Venezuelan justice minister admitted that although Venezuela is said to be a "bridge" country for drug trafficking, the increase in the domestic use of drugs, as well as money laundering activities, could be indications of the drug cartels' new efforts to find alternative sites. Creixems noted: "The struggle that Colombia, with the strength of international support, is presenting, poses the

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

possibility that the cartels will transfer their laboratories and crops from the area."

He highlighted the recent discoveries of drug crops in the Perija mountain range by Venezuelan authorities and said this should be seen as a sign of this new reality. "We have not found laboratories on Venezuelan territory but are constantly checking this possibility, because we also know there is pressure on the Colombian side, and this could tempt drug producers to transfer to Venezuela," he stated.

In addition to acetone, the cartels have been using other chemical precursors, such as gasoline and cement, to process drugs. Venezuela's export of such products to the neighboring country has increased in recent times. The fact that those products are also used for legal activities makes it difficult for authorities in both countries to determine the quantities that are used by drug traffickers, Creixems added. The reason for the contraband of gasoline from Venezuela to Colombia is due, not only because it is used to process drugs, but because fuel is cheaper in Venezuela.

To counter such a situation, Creixems and Martinez agreed to exchange information on the amount of precursors really needed by Colombian industry and commerce. This information will allow Venezuela to observe and have more control over the exports of acetone, gasoline, and cement. Creixems clarified that Venezuela cannot restrict the flow of those products to Colombia because, if it did, Colombian industry's legitimate and legal rights to develop would be deterred.

Minister Predicts Lifting of Price Controls in 1996

PA2010200595 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 1550 GMT 17 Oct 95

[From "The News" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Finance Minister Luis Raul Matos Azocar predicts that in the first half of 1996 the dollar will have a new exchange rate and price controls will be lifted.

[Begin Matos recording] Not only exchange, but also price controls will be eliminated. That has been one of our proposals and there is, therefore, no discrepancies with the IMF on this. The difference lies, as I have said, in the maintenance of the control regimen of the capital account. [end recording]

The finance minister said the devaluation will go into effect only after the signature of the letter of intent with the IMF, which will allow the country to obtain the resources needed to lift the controls imposed by the executive branch.

[Begin Matos recording] As for the lifting of the exchange control system, for example, we would need to have the resources available to us so that we can increase our reserves. Each one of the programs has its own system. [end recording]

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 352
MERRIFIELD, VA.

This is a U.S. Government publication produced by the Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS). Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

FBIS collects, translates, disseminates, and analyzes foreign open-source information on behalf of the U.S. Government. Its publications may contain copyrighted material. ***Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.***

— Bracketed indicators before the first sentence of each item describe the way in which the material was processed by FBIS.

— Headlines and all bracketed explanatory notes are supplied by FBIS.

— Personal and place names are rendered in accordance with the decisions of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names as adapted by FBIS. Unverified names in radio and television material appear in parentheses and are spelled phonetically; words and phrases in parentheses preceded by a question mark are unclear in the original and deduced from context.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

U.S. Government Customers

For a list of FBIS products, to subscribe to an FBIS publication, or to indicate a change of address contact:

FBIS
P.O. Box 2604
Washington, DC 20013-2604
Telephone: (202) 338-6735
FAX: (703) 733-6042

Non-Government Customers

Subscriptions are available from the National Technical Information Service:

NTIS
5285 Port Royal Road
Springfield, VA 22161
Telephone: (703) 487-4630
FAX: (703) 321-8547

New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.